

ERIC P. NEWMAN NUMISMATIC EDUCATION SOCIETY

6450 Cecil Avenue, St. Louis 5, Missouri

April 3, 1973

Mr. Morey Perlmutter
P. O. Box 48
Watertown, Mass. 02172

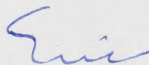
Dear Friend:

I am about to write up my speculation as to why the expression "as phony as a \$3.00 bill" could have gotten started. I don't want to make an idiot out of myself if it has been previously explained or written up but I believe I have a logical explanation.

Do you have any knowledge of its origin and if you do, will you share it with me? If you don't, do you know anyone who might know?

I will appreciate your comments very much.

Sincerely yours,



EPN/atb

ERIC P. NEWMAN NUMISMATIC
EDUCATION SOCIETY

4/17/73

I have no idea! Your explanation will probably be the right one. Maybe Henry Finin knows; you have his address.

*Sincerely,
Morey P.*

M. PERLMUTTER
HISTORIAN
P. O. BOX 476
NEWTON CTR., MASS. 02159



WESTERN PUBLISHING COMPANY, INC.

WHITMAN DIVISION

April 6, 1973

Mr. Eric P. Newman
6450 Cecil Avenue
St. Louis, Missouri 63105

Dear Eric:

I can always rely upon you to ask the toughest and most embarrassing questions! And with my usual aplomb I must say that I simply do not know anything about the origin of the expression, "as phony as a \$3.00 bill."

Neil and I discussed this topic, but could not come up with any concrete explanation.

In brainstorming the subject, we concluded that neither of us has ever seen or heard of a phony \$3.00 bill during the period they were current, so we would be inclined to think that the expression might have started after the inception of Government currency in 1862. We had both observed one point, and that is that the \$1.00 and \$2.00, series of 1862, both carry an unusual device (probably an anti-counterfeiting innovation) that has the numbers 1, 2, and 3 in circles. No \$3.00 bill was ever issued, of course, but perhaps this somehow ties to the concept that if a \$3.00 bill existed, it would be spurious.

Neil seems to remember that Donlon once mentioned that he had seen proofs of a \$3.00 design that was never issued, but we could find no published reference to this.

1220

MOUND AVENUE

RACINE, WISCONSIN

53404

CABLE: WESTPUB

TELEPHONE

[414] 633-2431

Mr. Eric P. Newman
St. Louis, Mo.

April 6, 1973
Page 2

I have not read Breen's latest series of articles on United States paper money that appeared in the Numismatist, but perhaps something was mentioned in there. Other than that, a simple check of our reference material here has not produced anything concerning the origin of this expression. If you have an explanation, it is most likely original and should be a worthwhile contribution to numismatics.

Concerning your comments on The Early Paper Money of America, yes, we really must start work in earnest on that project, and I would welcome the opportunity to get together with you and discuss this matter.

For the past three months I have been tied up with work on the new Red Book and other projects, so that I have simply not been able to estimate costs and production procedures.

I should be able to spend time on this within the next couple of weeks and hope we might be able to get together at the Peoria Central States convention next month. That would be the most convenient time for me to meet with you, providing you plan to attend that show.

Sincerely,

WESTERN PUBLISHING COMPANY, INC.



Kenneth E. Bressett, Manager
Whitman Coin Products

KEB:ca

JAMES G. JOHNSON
Coin World
Sidney, Ohio 45365

Coin World
THE WEEKLY NEWSPAPER OF THE ENTIRE NUMISMATIC FIELD
SIDNEY NEWS BUILDING
SIDNEY, OHIO 45365

4/9/73

Dear Eric:

It's a twist, YOU asking ME for information!

My long-standing impression is the phrase "phony~~x~~ as a \$3 bill" came from the prevalence of "broken bank" notes of that denomination, and this impression is backed up by Jim Charlton who says just that in a Coin World story, Jan. 17, 1968, page 47. I have no other suggestions.

There are two other CW stories about

\$3 bills which might be useful to you, if you are indulging in more than just the "phony" aspect.

Sept. 20, 1967, page 29 is a good article by Fay C. Smith; and May ~~5~~ 4, 1962 is a good reference to an exhibit of some 400 varieties by Gary E. Nathan. That's on page 10.

Hope this is useful.

Jim Johnson



AMERICAN NUMISMATIC ASSOCIATION

Chartered by Congress

GLENN B. SMEDLEY

Board of Governors

303 Homestead Rd., La Grange Park, Ill 60525

April 16, 1973

Mr. Eric P. Newman
P O Box 14020
St. Louis, MO 63178

Dear Eric:

The uncomplicated answer to your question (origin of "as phony as a \$3 bill") is "no."

While I have referred to the phrase several times in my writing, I have never tried to find its origin. If anything has been published about it, such has escaped me. I do hope you will reveal your logical explanation.

As you know, I expect to have the privilege of appearing before M.N.S. June 26 meeting and hope to see you. Or, perhaps, I will see you at the Central States Convention in Peoria May 4-6. Peoria is close to Chicago, of course, but I am at headquarters in Colorado Springs and expect to be here until past mid-May working on our slides. It is not certain that I'll get to Peoria but hope to do so.

With kindest regards, I am

Sincerely yours,

Glenn B. Smedley

GBS/Mrk

4/22/73

Dear Ken + Neil

A lovely Easter day is a good time to tell both of you that you are right in your \$3 bill answer in my opinion.

This special 1, 2, 3 design was for anti-alteration more than anti counterfeiting as I see it. I was just thinking one dull evening and this flashed thru my head. Then I found the 2/25/62 Legal tender act had denoms of no less than \$5. The 6/11/62 Act authorized notes less than \$5 but specified no denoms. So did the 3/3/63 Act. Thus when the Aug 1, 1862 \$1 & \$2 came out there could have been plans for a \$3, but I found a news article which says "the \$3 notes have not been ordered". Whether an essay or proof was made I don't know but I'll write Donlon.

Then to complicate the matter the Nat Bank Note Act (the amended one of 6/3/64 not the 2/25/63) provided for denoms of 1, 2, 3, 5, 10, 20, 50, 100, 500, 1000. Again ~~no \$3~~ ^{no #3} were made & no proofs so far as I know.

I'll do a little more work & write it up. It's too logical not to present as an explanation.

I'm writing longhand because my secretary has retired after 22 years of mimismatic correspondence. I do not plan to be a Central States as it's too far a walk. All my friends from St Louis will be there.

Best to you

Ken Brissett
Neil Shapp

Eric

ERIC P. NEWMAN NUMISMATIC EDUCATION SOCIETY

6450 Cecil Avenue, St. Louis 5, Missouri

September 4, 1973

Columbia University Press
440 West 110th Street
New York, New York 10025

Gentlemen:

Please give this letter to the Editor of American
Speech.

Very truly yours,

ERIC P. NEWMAN

EPN:jah

Encl.

ERIC P. NEWMAN NUMISMATIC EDUCATION SOCIETY

6450 Cecil Avenue, St. Louis 5, Missouri

September 4, 1973

Editor
American Speech
440 West 110th Street
New York, New York 10025

Gentlemen:

We are endeavoring to determine the origin and original meaning of the word "phoney", particularly as it is used in the expression "as phoney as a \$3.00 bill". We are wondering whether you have any new material on this word since it was written up in your publication many years ago as derived from the Irish word "fawney". I find no evidence to support the published theory. Would you please be nice enough to let me know what your current files show with respect to this word?

My write-up will be published in^a Numismatic^a publication first, but if you would like to have it for consideration for your publication, you will certainly be welcome to it.

I will appreciate your cooperation.

Sincerely,

ERIC P. NEWMAN

EPN:jah

BUREAU OF ENGRAVING AND PRINTING

THE DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

Washington, D. C. 20226



Office of the Director

September 24, 1973

Mr. Eric P. Newman
Eric P. Newman Numismatic Education Society
6450 Cecil Avenue
St. Louis 5, Missouri

Dear Eric:

Enclosed are the proofs of the \$3 United States Note of July 11, 1862 which you requested.

I hope they will be helpful with your article.

Sincerely,

James A. Conlon
Director

Enclosures

ERIC P. NEWMAN NUMISMATIC EDUCATION SOCIETY

6450 Cecil Avenue, St. Louis 5, Missouri

September 24, 1973

Mr. John Algeo
Park Hall
University of Georgia
Athens, Georgia 30601

Re: Phoney or phony

Dear Mr. Algeo:

Thank you for your thought on the above. My proposal is to return to the source as funny. I feel that the word arose to distinguish funny (comical) from funny (odd or queer). Phoney, I believe, is funny (queer).

The basis for my speculation is the \$3 bill episode. Counterfeit notes were called queer, counterfeiters were called queersmen. The change in spelling is to distinguish phoney from comical. I will show how the \$3 bill was common up to the Civil War, but eliminated thereafter. Yet the government planned a \$3 bill but never issued it.

My case is speculative, but other proposals are more speculative, as I see it.

I'll send you my article when it is complete and you can determine whether it has merit.

Thank you again,

ERIC P. NEWMAN

EPN:jah

THE CHASE MANHATTAN BANK
National Association
MONEY MUSEUM



Rockefeller Center

1254 Avenue of the Americas, New York, New York 10020

October 25, 1973

Mr. Eric P. Newman
6450 Cecil Avenue
St. Louis, Missouri

Dear Eric:

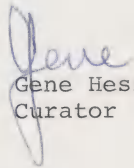
Your letter arrived yesterday. Thanks for the photographs, I already have prints of the two you sent but an extra print can always be used. I am however most anxious to receive the Confederate half dollar photo.

I am having two prints made of the \$3 back. You should receive them in a week or so. Please credit "The Pennell Collection." Roy Pennell is the owner of the piece, he is aware of your desire for the photo.

Yes, please send the duplicate picture of the signing scene.

I hope to see you soon.

Sincerely,


Gene Hessler
Curator

THE CHASE MANHATTAN BANK
National Association
MONEY MUSEUM



Rockefeller Center

1254 Avenue of the Americas, New York, New York 10020

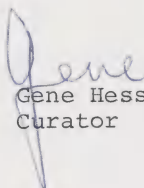
October 30, 1973

Mr. Eric P. Newman
P.O. Box 14020
St. Louis, Mo. 63178

Dear Eric:

As promised here are the photographs you requested. I would appreciate a reference to my "Comprehensive Catalogue of United States Paper Money" as the first publication to illustrate this note.

Sincerely,


Gene Hessler
Curator

11/5/73

Dear Gene:

I am researching the word phoney (phony) and need a little help on some data I can't find in St Louis. Of all things I need is a dict. many but it is not here in my library.

It is Webster's Ninth Dictionary of the English Language published in 1890 and reprinted until 1909 when Webster's New Ninth Dict was published. Will you be nice enough to look at the 1890 edition or ^{printing of the} 1909 for the following words:

- ① phoney
- ② shoney
- ③ faunny
- ④ fawney
- ⑤ funny business under funny

There is a regular section of the dictionary and sometimes there are notations in a margin below. Please copy what is in either area. In the 1909 edition items 1 2 & 5 are included, 2 & 3 are not there. In the 1890 edition more are there.

I will be grateful for any help you can give me. It's a cute problem and I may not solve it but I'm going to try.

Yours
Gene

ERIC P. NEWMAN NUMISMATIC EDUCATION SOCIETY

6450 Cecil Avenue, St. Louis 5, Missouri

November 6, 1973

Mr. Gene Hessler, Curator
The Chase Manhattan Bank
Money Museum
1254 Avenue of the Americas
New York, New York 10020

Dear Gene:

Thank you for your cooperation.

I want you to know that I received from another source a picture of the \$3 note, both face and back, before I received the one you sent. Nevertheless, I will try to work in appropriate credit.

I do not have a copy of your Comprehensive Catalog of United States Paper Money and would appreciate it if you would send me one. Tell me how many editions were issued and what dates. I will get to the Confederate picture as soon as I can and also the variety of the signing scene.

Sincerely,

Eric P. Newman

EPN:jah

RADCLIFFE INSTITUTE
3 JAMES STREET
CAMBRIDGE, MASSACHUSETTS 02138

November 28, 1973

(617) 495-8211

Dear Eric,

I received first your article, which I very much enjoyed, and then your note, about which I wish to give you a lack-of-progress report.

Widener listed two copies of the 1890 edition. One, supposedly at the Fogg, is not at the Fogg; the other is missing. I had to check this three separate times at intervals of a week before they would agree to trace it. This they are now doing but, from past experience, this may take weeks or months.

In the meantime, you may wish to contact the InterLibrary Loan department of your nearest and best university or public library. They send around and find the copy nearest their library, which they then procure for your temporary use. This procedure is lengthy but it may be well to initiate it.

I will await the results of the Widener trace and will act accordingly unless you tell me to desist.

It was great fun seeing all the Newman's at the surprise party for Linda and Peter (and they both added greatly to the one for me!) and trust you are all well.

With best regards and love,

JANE

RADCLIFFE INSTITUTE
3 JAMES STREET
CAMBRIDGE, MASSACHUSETTS 02138

(617) 495-8211

December 2, 1973

Dear Eric,

Me again. I received the tracing results back in record time; they held the missing copy for me. I went in yesterday and looked up phony, phoney, fauny, fawney and funny business in the 1890 WID-and found absolutely nothing at all under any of these words.

So I don't know if that is good news or bad news but at least you have an answer.

With love again to you all,

Jane

ERIC P. NEWMAN NUMISMATIC EDUCATION SOCIETY

6450 Cecil Avenue, St. Louis 5, Missouri

December 5, 1973

Editorial Department
G & C Merriam Co.
47 Federal Street
Springfield, Mass. 01101

Gentlemen:

I have virtually completed an article on the word phoney or phony. I believe there is sufficient evidence to clarify its origin.

I have checked the Webster 1880 edition and the 1909 edition of the New International Dictionary but have not been able to locate either in St. Louis or at Harvard any printing of the 1890 edition of Webster's International Dictionary.

Would you be nice enough to check your 1890 edition and tell me if the words "phoney" or "phony" are mentioned, whether the expression "Funny business" is mentioned under the words funny, phoney or phony, and whether the words "fauney" or "fawney" are included. That data would be appreciated. A photocopy would be adequate.

I presume the early printings of the 1890 edition are the same as the subsequent printings prior to the 1909 revision, but, if not, would you let me know of any differences. I am interested in both what appears in the regular text and in any footnote if the 1890 edition is in that form.

Perhaps you already have in your files some detail I do not have on "phoney" or "phony", but your current dictionaries indicate that the origin is still considered unknown. I will appreciate your helpfulness and will gladly share my thoughts with you.

Very truly yours,

Eric P. Newman

EPN:jah

P.S. My article will be entitled "As Phoney as a Three Dollar Bill" and will explain the origin of each part of the expression. It will be published in a numismatic magazine.



G. & C. Merriam Company

PUBLISHERS OF MERRIAM-WEBSTER REFERENCE BOOKS

December 11, 1973

Mr. Eric P. Newman
6450 Cecil Avenue
St. Louis, MO 63105

Dear Mr. Newman:

We are glad to reply to your letter of December 5 in which you ask whether any of the words phony, phoney, funny business, fauney, or fawney is entered in the 1890 Webster's International Dictionary. None is; the 1909 Webster's New International, which you have seen, is the first of our dictionaries to enter phony, phoney, and funny business, and none has fauney or fawney. Phony has been traced back (see Mitford M. Mathews, A Dictionary of Americanisms on Historical Principles) only as far as 1900. The earliest citation in our files is from The New York Sun of September 28, 1902, p. 8:

It wasn't any phony deal, at that, for I had the deck myself,
and I don't fight cripples with knives. It would ha' been
rubbin' it in to stack the cards against that outfit.

Although several etymologies have been suggested, all are dubious, and we etymologize phony "origin unknown". The most likely suggestion we have seen is Eric Partridge's (A Dictionary of Slang and Unconventional English), that phony comes from fawney, as in fawney rig "ring dropping", from Irish fáinne "ring". We should be more comfortable with this if there were any evidence that fawney itself had ever been used in the general sense of "phony". The New International's suggestion of a connection between phony and funny business was only a guess based on similarity of sound and meaning; we know of nothing else to support it. We should be very pleased to see any light that you are able to shed on the origin of phony. Thank you.

Sincerely yours,

Gretchen Brunk

Gretchen Brunk

GB/hol

ERIC P. NEWMAN NUMISMATIC EDUCATION SOCIETY

6450 Cecil Avenue, St. Louis 5, Missouri

April 23, 1974

Ms. Gretchen Brunk
G. & C. Merriam Company
47 Federal Street
Springfield, Mass. 01101

Dear Ms. Brunk:

You were nice enough to write me concerning the work I was doing on the word "phony".

I am taking the liberty of forwarding to you the article I am submitting for publication involving the expression "as phony as a \$3 bill". I will polish it further and you should feel free to submit your suggestions if you care to. It will probably be published in *The Numismatist* which is a monthly magazine, and no compensation is paid. You may not agree with the thinking I suggest that phony comes from funny as the matter is dependent on the degree of proof needed. I do not know whether you use the words "apparently" or "probably" relating to an origin or whether you require incontestable proof or nothing. I believe that the timing of the use of phony and funny business is convincing where the meaning is identical and there is an effort to distinguish between various meanings of the same word.

Please be intellectually honest in criticizing my article if you care to comment on it. I will appreciate your cooperation.

Sincerely,

Eric P. Newman

EPN:jah

Encl.

ERIC P. NEWMAN NUMISMATIC EDUCATION SOCIETY

6450 Cecil Avenue, St. Louis 5, Missouri

April 29, 1974

Mr. Edward C. Rochette
Box 2366
Colorado Springs, Colorado 80901

Dear Ed:

Not having been acquainted with your editor, I am sending an article to you. It is on the "light" side as I was told that has more appeal than "heavy" stuff I usually write. Please give this to Mr. Harris.

This article is the first disclosure of the face of the \$3 U. S. Note. It discloses a proof of a heretofore unknown date (July 15, 1862) connected with U. S. Paper Money.

The numbering of the footnotes in the text are circled and can be set in any type preferred. The illustrations are numbered in red in a square and are in the order in which they are referred to in the text. Please enlarge the important ones to the width of the page.

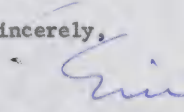
Assuming the editor accepts the article, I would like to check the galley proofs if possible. Any editing or art work is most welcome.

I will need 15 extra copies of the Numismatist in which it may be published. If your organization cares to pay for the photographic expense, the bill can be sent to you.

Please convince the editors to feel free to make any suggestions as to the article as I will gladly try to improve it.

My very kindest personal regards.

Sincerely,



Eric P. Newman

EPN:jah

Encl.



AMERICAN NUMISMATIC ASSOCIATION

Chartered by Congress

EDWARD C. ROCHETTE

Executive Director

P. O. Box 2366, COLORADO SPRINGS, COLORADO 80901

May 3, 1974

Mr. Eric P. Newman
6450 Cecil Avenue
St. Louis, Missouri

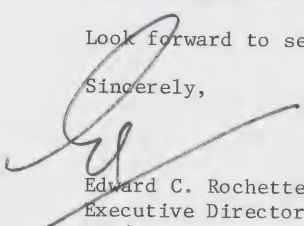
Dear Eric:

Thank you for your letter of April 29 and the article, "As Phony As A Three Dollar Bill." I am sure that it is one that Neil Harris will be as enthused about as I am. I will personally discuss this article with Neil later in the morning, and you will be hearing directly from him.

There is no problem in furnishing you the 15 extra copies of The Numismatist in which it may be published. As for the cost of photography, we do have a small allowance in our budget and trust that the bill will not be too excessive.

Look forward to seeing you in Miami if not sooner.

Sincerely,



Edward C. Rochette
Executive Director
ECR/ps



THE NUMISMATIST

Official Publication of
AMERICAN NUMISMATIC ASSOCIATION
N. NEIL HARRIS
Editor

P. O. BOX 2366, COLORADO SPRINGS, COLORADO 80901

May 10, 1974

Eric P. Newman
6450 Cecil Avenue
St. Louis, Missouri

Dear Mr. Newman:

Ed Rochette forwarded your article, "As Phony As A Three Dollar Bill," to me and I am sure we will be able to use it in THE NUMISMATIST.

At this time, I cannot tell you exactly when it will be run, but it may well be around the end of the year. I am quite sure our readers will find it both interesting and entertaining.

I am afraid it is not possible for us to have authors proof their work once it is set by the printers. Unless the circumstances are unusual, we do not have our copy set much more than a week ahead.

Thank you for thinking of THE NUMISMATIST in submitting your recent work. We look forward to publishing it.

Sincerely,

N. Neil Harris
Editor

NNH/pkf



G.&C. Merriam Company

PUBLISHERS OF MERRIAM-WEBSTER REFERENCE BOOKS

May 15, 1974

Mr. Eric P. Newman
Eric P. Newman Numismatic
Education Society
6450 Cecil Avenue
St. Louis, MO 63105

Dear Mr. Newman:

In your letter of April 23 you ask "whether you use the words 'apparently' or 'probably' relating to an origin or whether you require incontestable proof or nothing." We do occasionally use prob[ably] or even perh[aps], but only when we are convinced that a proposed etymology is very likely (prob.) or that it is as likely as not and more likely than any other suggestion we have seen (perh.). Your paper has convinced us that the \$3 bill is (or was) less phony than we had supposed, but we remain unconvinced that funny is probably the etymon of phony. You state that "the assertion that phony was derived from fawney is without evidence or logic." Eric Partridge, in both A Dictionary of Slang and Unconventional English and A Dictionary of the Underworld, presents, briefly, a case for the derivation of phony from fawney, including the occurrence of fawney in America, which is certainly not without logic. The most conspicuous missing link is evidence that fawney was ever used in the general sense of phony. But your paper presents no stronger evidence for a link between funny and phony. We notice also that you do not cite any evidence for the pronunciation change (in sundae) "from the sound of a in ape to the sound of u in up," or for the pronunciation of coney ("counterfeit money") to rhyme with phony. We are sorry that we can be no more encouraging.

Sincerely yours,

Gretchen Brunk

Gretchen Brunk

GB/hol

*Copy of article
sent
5/20/74*

ERIC P. NEWMAN NUMISMATIC EDUCATION SOCIETY

6450 Cecil Avenue, St. Louis 5, Missouri

May 20, 1974

Ms. Gretchen Brunk
G. & C. Merriam Co.
47 Federal Street
Springfield, Massachusetts

Dear Ms. Brunk:

Thank you for your comments on the word phony. I, too, wish I could have stronger evidence. I hope you don't think my position is entirely "phony". I have made some changes based upon your comments.

I am glad that at least the \$3 bill matter was convincing and new to you.

As to Eric Partridge, he has recognized my work on the word bung in Shakespeare's Bawdy (4th Edition) and maybe he will support me on phony if he is still active. I believe he accepted fawney as the origin of phony on the basis of the 1937 Tamony article in American Speech which I cited. Perhaps if I get Partridge on my side you might changed to "prob" or "perh".

Thanks for your help.

Sincerely,

Eric P. Newman

EPN:jah

ERIC P. NEWMAN NUMISMATIC EDUCATION SOCIETY

6450 Cecil Avenue, St. Louis 5, Missouri

May 21, 1974

Mr. N. Neil Harris, Editor
The Numismatist
P. O. Box 2366
Colorado Springs, Colorado 80901

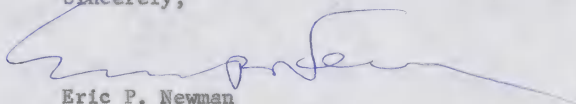
Dear Mr. Harris:

Thank you for your letter of May 10, 1974, with respect to the article I submitted entitled "As Phony As A \$3 Bill". I am particularly anxious to have the article published soon because it contains the first disclosure of an important piece of U. S. money. I think it is important to get it published as soon as possible. I am sure you do not want someone else to publish it first.

I made a few improvements and would appreciate it if you would throw away pages 4, 9 and footnotes and substitute the enclosed pages.

If there is anything further I can do, please let me know.

Sincerely,



Eric P. Newman

EPN:jah

Encls.



THE NUMISMATIST

Official Publication of
AMERICAN NUMISMATIC ASSOCIATION

N. NEIL HARRIS
Editor

P. O. BOX 2366, COLORADO SPRINGS, COLORADO 80901

May 24, 1974

Eric P. Newman
6450 Cecil Avenue
St. Louis, Missouri

Dear Eric:

I am sorry I missed your call last Monday; I was in Denver at the time getting art supplies for the journal.

I am as anxious as you are to get "As Phony As A \$3 Bill" into print. The earliest date I will be able to use it is in the September issue since I have already scheduled articles which are parts of two series for July and August.

We have taken care of the corrections you sent. If there is anything else we can do, let us know.

Again, sorry I missed your call.

Sincerely,

N. Neil Harris
Editor

NNH/pkf



THE NUMISMATIST

Official Publication of
AMERICAN NUMISMATIC ASSOCIATION

N. NEIL HARRIS
Editor

P. O. BOX 2366, COLORADO SPRINGS, COLORADO 80901

June 14, 1974

Eric P. Newman
Eric P. Newman Numismatic Education Society
6450 Cecil Avenue
St. Louis, Missouri 63105

Dear Eric:

Thank you for sending the biographical sketch; we will want to use it along with a glossy photo which we have here on file.

The way things are shaping up, I will probably be running your article in the August issue.

Sincerely,

N. Neil Harris
Editor

NNH/pkf

August 9, 1974

Mr. Burt Dobinsky
Advertising

Dear Burt:

Official thanks for helping me take the pictures of the items used in my recently published article. I was proud to include your name in the acknowledgments.

Thanks again.

Sincerely,

Eric P. Newman

EPN:jah

ERIC P. NEWMAN NUMISMATIC EDUCATION SOCIETY

6450 Cecil Avenue, St. Louis 5, Missouri

August 12, 1974

Mr. James Conlon, Director
Bureau of Engraving and Printing
Washington, D. C.

Dear Jim:

I enclose herewith my article entitled "As Phony As a Three Dollar Bill". Featured in the article is the \$3 proof which you were kind enough to locate and photograph for me. I hope you find the article of interest.

If you have any numismatic problems which require research, I will be delighted to try to be of help.

Kindest personal regards.

Sincerely,

Eric P. Newman

EPN:jah

Encl.



AMERICAN NUMISMATIC ASSOCIATION

Chartered by Congress

August 14, 1974

Eric P. Newman
Eric P. Newman Numismatic Education Society
6450 Cecil Avenue
St. Louis, Missouri 63105

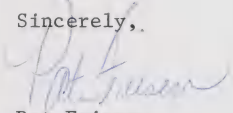
Dear Mr. Newman:

Enclosed you will find eight individual tear sheets of your article and the requested fifteen copies of the August NUMISMATIST.

Although I am a relatively new student of the science of numismatics, I felt like an expert recently when I was able to cite your article as evidence that the three dollar bill really did exist. Needless to say, the person with whom I was arguing was duly impressed.

If we can be of any assistance to you, please do not hesitate to write or call.

Sincerely,


Pat Friesen
Editorial Assistant
THE NUMISMATIST

enclosures

August 19, 1974

Ms. Gretchen Brunk

The enclosed is the published article on "phony".

Thank you for being of assistance to me with respect to it. I would hope that it might be more convincing to you.

From the desk of
ERIC P. NEWMAN

August 20, 1974

Mr. John Algeo, Editor
American Speech
Park Hall
University of Georgia
Athens , Georgia 30601

Dear Mr. Algeo:

In your letter to me of September 14, 1973 you indicated a desire to have a copy of my article on phony after it was published. I am enclosing a copy taken from the August 1974 Mumismatist . I hope it is of interest to you and I would be glad to have you consider publishing any portion of it. I will be glad to rework it for your purposes .

I want to thank you for your encouragement and cooperation which you graciously gave me in the research you did for the letter you wrote me.

Cordially yours,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Emory Newman", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.



AMERICAN NUMISMATIC ASSOCIATION

Chartered by Congress

N. NEIL HARRIS

Editor

P. O. Box 2366, COLORADO SPRINGS, COLORADO 80901

August 27, 1974

Eric Newman

Eric P. Newman Numismatic Education Society

6450 Cecil Avenue

St. Louis, Missouri 63105

Dear Eric:

Enclosed is a letter which we received that
I thought might be of interest to you.

With best regards,

N. Neil Harris

Editor

NNH/pkf



G.&C. Merriam Company

PUBLISHERS OF MERRIAM-WEBSTER REFERENCE BOOKS

August 30, 1974

Mr. Eric P. Newman
Eric P. Newman Numismatic Education Society
6450 Cecil Avenue
St. Louis, MO 63105

Dear Mr. Newman:

Thank you for sending your Numismatist article. We are sorry to say that we remain unconvinced that your theory of phony's origin is more probable than any other that has been suggested. But we shall keep your arguments in mind and remain on the lookout for further evidence.

Sincerely yours,

Gretchen Brunk

Gretchen Brunk

GB/hol

THE AMERICAN DIALECT SOCIETY

Organized 1889

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

A. Hood Roberts
Center for Applied Linguistics
1611 North Kent Street
Arlington, Virginia 22209

September 14, 1973

Dear Mr. Newman:

EDITOR, PUBLICATION OF THE AMERICAN DIALECT SOCIETY

Virginia McDavid
Department of English
Chicago State University
95th Street at King Drive
Chicago, Illinois 60628

EDITOR, AMERICAN SPEECH

John Algeo
Park Hall
University of Georgia
Athens, Georgia 30601

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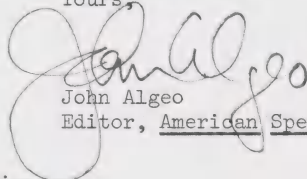
Juanita E. Williamson
Le Moyne-Owen College

So far as I know, no more plausible etymology for phony than that suggested in American Speech, 12 (1937) 108-10, has been proposed. Fawney or fauney from Erse fáinne 'a ring' is attested from the 18th century, especially in connection with a flimflam game in which a cheap ring is passed off as gold and sold for many times its value. The connection between fawney and phony is not perfect, and the pronunciation of the first vowel is a minor difficulty, but the fawney etymology has a great deal more evidence in its favor than the earlier speculations funny, telephone, or Forney (a manufacturer of cheap jewelry). The fawney etymology is accepted as the best available by Mencken's American Language and by Pyles in Words and Ways of American English; it is accepted with perhaps too much confidence by Partridge in Origins; it is accepted with a "?" by dictionaries like Funk and Wagnalls and Random House. Lexicographers, however, tend to be conservative about etymologizing, so others (Merriam-Webster, American Heritage) say "origin unknown." I know of no recent evidence on the question, so the most judicious stand would be to say that the etymology of phony is uncertain, but the word is probably from fawney.

The use of the word in the expression as phony as a three dollar bill is likely to be a secondary use, part of a very large (and open-ended) set of idioms with the pattern as ADJECTIVE as NOUN (as nutty as a fruitcake/squirrel, as slow as molasses, as happy as a lark, etc.).

I would very much appreciate a copy of your piece when it is published, and if you have some new evidence on the origin of the word, we would certainly think about publishing it as an etymological note. With cordial best wishes.

Yours,



John Algeo
Editor, American Speech

JA/am

Eric P. Newman
Eric P. Newman Numismatic Education
Society
6450 Cecil Avenue
St. Louis 5, Missouri

THE AMERICAN DIALECT SOCIETY

Organized 1889

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Center for Applied Linguistics
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University of Texas

Juanita V. Williamson
LeMoyné-Owen College

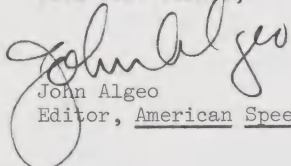
19 November 1974

Dear Mr. Newman:

Many thanks for the offprint of your "As Phony As A Three Dollar Bill," which I have found very informative indeed. What we really need for tracing the etymology of phony is something to connect it definitely with one or another of the possible etyma.

Comic misspellings were extremely common in the nineteenth century so it is certainly within the realm of possibility that funny was deliberately misspelled as phony and subsequently mispronounced. Allen Walker Read, in a series of five articles in American Speech in 1963 and 1964, traced the history of OK, showing conclusively that it began as an abbreviation for the comic misspelling oll korrekt. Almost immediately, however, the expression was associated with political slogans and consequently only by extensive reading in the newspapers of the period was Read able to sort out the early history. Whether there is comparable evidence available somewhere for the source of phony is, of course, an uncertain question. And it is always possible that, like OK, phony may have been interpreted very early in a fashion different from its actual origin. In any event, it is going to take some dedicated searching through possible sources to see what can be turned up. Your article certainly points to one subject that needs to be investigated and thus is a real contribution to the etymology of phony.

With best wishes,


JOHN ALGEO
Editor, American Speech

Mr. Eric P. Newman
Numismatic Education Society
6450 Cecil Avenue
St. Louis, Missouri

JA/ak

ERIC P. NEWMAN NUMISMATIC EDUCATION SOCIETY

6450 Cecil Avenue, St. Louis, Missouri 63105

Michele Organo
Coin World
Sidney, Ohio

October 26, 1992

Dear Writer:

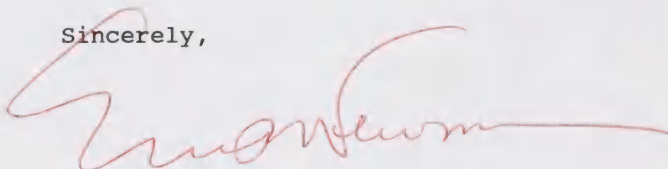
Your article on the \$3 bill in Coin World of November 2, 1992 interested me and thank you for mentioning the article I wrote on the subject in 1974.

First: Please tell me the source of the William Hemphill of 1777 comment. I want to add it to my book.

Second: I believe you used Early Paper Money of America as a source, but unfortunately you thought that the abbreviation "d" was for dollars instead of for pence. This led you down the wrong path. Please refer to the abbreviation section. Perhaps this will give you the chance to write another article to clear the matter up and expand on it.

I am sure you found the subject interesting.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in red ink, appearing to read 'Eric P. Newman', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Eric P. Newman

ERIC P. NEWMAN NUMISMATIC EDUCATION SOCIETY

6450 Cecil Avenue, St. Louis, Missouri 63105

October 31, 1994

Hon. Mary Ellen Withrow
Treasurer of the United States
Department of the Treasury
Washington, D.C. 20220

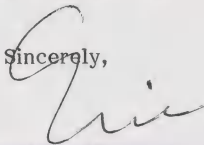
Dear Mary Ellen:

When we chatted in New York at the American Numismatic Society and the Henry Norweb event, you indicated an interest in seeing an article I wrote entitled AS PHONY AS A THREE DOLLAR BILL. Margo urged me to send it. Its content might come in handy at a time you might need some subject matter for remarks relating to your department's history.

If there is any historical data which you might need in the future, please don't hesitate to request it and I will do my best.

It was a pleasure to meet you and to talk with you, and I wish you continued success in your position.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Eric', with a stylized flourish extending from the end.

Eric P. Newman

EPN:bv



DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY
WASHINGTON

November 9, 1994

Eric P. Newman
Numismatic Education Society
6450 Cecil Avenue
St. Louis, MO 63105

Dear Mr. Newman:

Thank you for the article on the \$3.00 bill. I am going to use it in some of my speeches.

I am sorry that I will not be able to attend your presentation at the Dunbarton House. My Senior Advisor, Carol Rowan, will be attending in my place.

It was great hearing from you.

Sincerely,

MARY ELLEN WITHROW
Treasurer of the United States

W. G. Miller
1312 No. Nassau
Wichita, Kansas 67208

Wednesday

Dear Editor: -

Congratulations on getting an article by Eric Newman, August issue. When Newman researches a subject, the result is definitive.

A comment: Figure 4, 1856 \$3 note of Dravots Bank, Leavenworth is double phony. The note is phony and so is the bank. It never existed.

One more thing. Now that you printed Hancock's article, lets have Birt & Wagners comments.

W. G. Miller

ANA# 14086

BEN KIMPEL

BOX 1500 2321

FAYETTEVILLE, ARKANSAS 72701

Dear Eric,

Thanks for the "phong" article. The 4-dollar bill is 100% convincing & very interesting - new to me at least. "Phong" is at least probable - "funny business," as you say, is a good link, & it sounds a lot likelier than "fowny."

Give my best to Evelyn, & both of you have a good trip to Afghanistan. Sorry I didn't know more about it. Hope to see you after you get back,
Ben

BANK★NO

Eric P Newman
6450 Cecil Ave
St Louis MO 63105

— 35/79 Requested

The FINES Newspaper: Friendship and Integrity in Numismatic Education and Service

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VOLUME 1 NO. 21

Paper Money of the World

by John A. Muscalus

© 1974

money of many com-
of the Empire or the
onwealth; however,
is made here to his-
figures honored for an
nding achievement



“Columbus” at San Salvador
Bank Note issued by the
20, 1864.

than being honored by
of protocol, political ex-
y or directives.

raits, historical paint-
d sculpture of Colum-
us portrayed on paper
issued in Argentina,
ica, Cuba, Dominican
e, Ecuador, El Sal-
Guadaloupe, Italy, Mex-
caragua, Puerto Rico,
mas, Spain, the United

States, Uruguay, and perhaps
others. Spellings and geo-
graphical names have
changed over the years in a
few instances, and con-
sequently the alphabetical ar-
rangement can be affected.

In general, the portrayals
consist of portraits, either full
face or in profile. Events in the
life of Columbus occur occa-
sionally on the notes but much
less frequently than do the
portraits. The events pertain
to the presentation of his plans,
his departure, sighting land,
landing, and the return. The
sighting of land and the
landing are portrayed more
frequently than the other
events. This is true regarding
the events on paper money
issued in the United States.

It is interesting to note that
paper money issued in the
United States honored Colum-
bus more frequently than did
the paper money issued by the
rest of the world combined. His
portrait on state bank notes
ranks sixth highest in fre-
quency among the several
hundred figures honored on

• See Page 3



\$3 U.S. Treasury note of 1862, shown for the first time at the Vir-
ginia Numismatic Association annual convention on September 14.

Hessler Addresses VNA: Shows 1862\$3 Treasury Note

The Virginia Numismatic As-
sociation held its 16th annual
convention September 13-15,
1974, at the Sheraton Coliseum
in Hampton, Virginia. As
always it was a successful and
enjoyable convention, par-
ticularly for paper money en-
thusiasts.

Many prominent paper
money dealers and collectors
were in evidence, though
everyone was saddened by the
absence of Charles J. Affleck
of Winchester, Virginia, who
was in the hospital.

The annual banquet was held
Saturday evening, September
14, at which ANA past pres-
ident and governor John Jay
Pittman was the M.C. Elvin
Miller of Leesburg, Virginia,
was installed as President, and
the “best of show” award for
the outstanding paper money
exhibit went to Ralph Hicks.

The highlight of the banquet

and show was an interesting
talk by Gene Hessler, curator
of the Chase-Manhattan Bank
Museum collection since 1967
and author of *The Comprehen-
sive Catalog of U.S. Paper
Money*. Hessler showed slides
of numerous \$3 bills issued by
private organizations, and the
\$3 U.S. Treasury note of 1817.
The presentation was cul-
minated with a picture of the
elusive U.S. \$3 note of 1862,
shown for the first time. The
note was prepared, but never
issued, by the U.S. Treasury
Department.

Hessler mentioned that this
proof specimen had been lo-
cated only recently in the
Bureau of Engraving and
Printing files. At least two re-
verses for this note in proof
form are extant, but the
B.E.P. specimen obverse is
the first to come to light.
Drool, all you \$3 bill collectors!



SOUTH CAROLINA CURRENCY
Top Prices Paid!
All notes wanted — colonial,
obsolete, National, scrip,
proofs, anything.
Austin M. Shahaan, Jr.
Box 428 Camden SC 29020

**UNITED STATES
CURRENCY**
LARGE AND SMALL ALSO
RELATED BOOKS AND

INSIDE Report

BEN KIMPEL

Box ~~1585~~ 2321

FAYETTEVILLE, ARK. 72701

Dear Eric -

Many thanks for the poem - I
was glad of the chance to read it
at more leisure. American Speech
is ^{edited} ~~published~~ by James N. Auer, Columbia
Univ. Press, 440 W. 110th St, New
York, 10025. It already had 41 vols.
in 1966, & is still going. It, &
several other periodicals, are indexed in
Words & Phrases Index, Prentice Press,
Ann Arbor, Mich., 1969 - scholarship
supplementary to OED & Dict. of American
English. The latter is still in
print, 4 vols., Univ. of Chicago, \$100 - ed.

Craig & Herbert¹⁹⁴² So in M. M. Mathews'
Dictionary of Americanisms in Historical
Principles, 1951, 2 vols., U. of Chicago \$25.
The latter, by the way, gives as the
origin of "phony" the Irish FAWNEY, a
gilt brass ring.

I hope I do get to SX,
Louis before too long my best
to Evelyn -

Ken

Indonesia was pleasant enough,
but not up to New Guinea.

1975 ANA Heath Literary Awards

For articles published in *The Numismatist* in 1974

FIRST AWARD Silver Heath Literary Award Medal plus \$250

Thomas P. Rockwell *Dating Systems on Coins*
North Andover, Massachusetts *Since 1000 A.D.*

SECOND AWARD Bronze Heath Literary Award Medal plus \$100

Eric P. Newman *As Phony As A*
St. Louis, Missouri *Three Dollar Bill*

THIRD AWARD Bronze Heath Literary Award Medal

R. W. Julian *Russian Gold Coinage*
Logansport, Indiana *1682 to 1925*

Miguel L. Munoz *Don Venustiano Carranza and*
Mexico City, Mexico *His Gobierno Constitucionalista*



CERTIFICATES OF MERIT

William C. Henderson
Colorado Springs, Colorado

Four Articles on Check Collecting

Victor C. Seibert
McCune, Kansas

*World War I Siberian Prisoner-of-War
Camp Paper Money 1914-20*

Ken Bressett
Racine, Wisconsin

*A Short History of Twentieth
Century Overdates*

Richard E. Dickerson
Pasadena, California

*Military Headgear on the
Satirical Coins of Napoleon III*

All of the preceding awards will be presented at ceremonies during the 84th ANA Anniversary Convention, August 19-24, at Los Angeles, Calif.

New Information About

The U.S. \$3 LEGAL TENDER NOTE

by Gene Hessler, NLG



photographs by William R. Devine & Gene Hessler

Preceding page: An uncut sheet of \$3 legal tender notes. For some reason the Act on the right of the bottom note was etched out on the negative. (Courtesy of the Bureau of Engraving & Printing)



A drawing which accompanied the letter from John M. Batchelder to Secretary of the Treasury Richardson.

In 1974, the much-talked-about unissued design for the 1862 \$3 Legal Tender Note surfaced. Surprisingly, the design differed from the \$1 and \$2 Legal Tender Notes which were issued. It had been assumed that the anti-alteration device on the latter denominations would have been used on the \$3 design, but it was not. (An interesting letter in the National Archives, dated April 18, 1873, Boston, addressed to Secretary of the Treasury William A. Richardson, suggests the sender, John M. Batchelder, was the designer of the anti-alteration device. Mr. Batchelder writes: "I gave you in Cambridge an example of my design to prevent alteration. I would like to have my design introduced on the new notes [1874 Legal Tender Notes]. It was used on the 30 million issue of 'ones' and 'twos,' but new designs resembling the enclosed will be better. The named ruling should be course enough to allow each line to end at the circle that surrounds the denominational figure.")

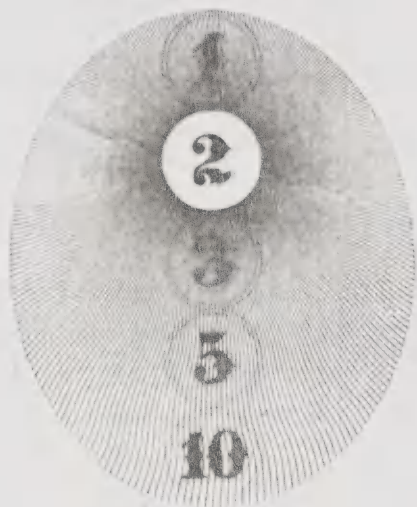
Instead of a portrait, there was a timely patriotic vignette entitled *Army and Navy*¹ adapted from a drawing by an artist named Herrick; the engraving as seen on the note was engraved by Louis Delnoce. Two articles about this \$3 Legal Tender Note essay were published in 1974, one by Eric Newman, the other by this author. Neither was aware that the other was simultaneously preparing a similar article, even though the titles (listed in the bibliography) suggest otherwise. Little factual evidence concerning the background for this particular essay was presented by either author for the reason that such information was unknown. During the past two years I have frequented the National Archives in Washington, D.C., searching for the information which would clear up the mystery surrounding this note.

The U.S. Treasury was not equipped to produce bank

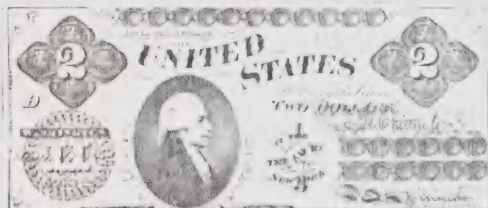
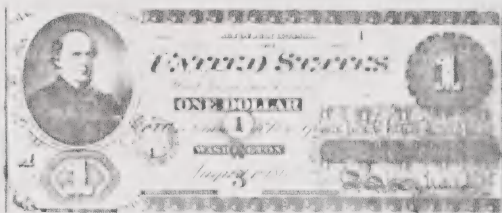
notes and would not assume this responsibility in its entirety until 1887 under the name of the National Currency Bureau. Thus, once again private bank note companies were engaged as they had been during the preceding 50 years when circulating Treasury Notes were needed. The nation's two leading bank note companies, the *American* and *National*,² were called upon independently and cooperatively to produce Demand Notes, Interest-bearing Treasury Notes and Legal Tender Notes.

The latter issue was to include a \$3 note, which is the design with which we are primarily concerned. Correspondence between the U.S. Treasury and the two companies just mentioned reveals the heretofore missing data pertaining to what is now considered to be a very odd denomination. This correspondence yielded additional information which to many should be extremely exciting, that of an existing second design for the \$3 Legal Tender Note by the National Bank Note Company, as well as second designs for the \$1 and \$2 notes of the same series by the American Bank Note Company.

An engraving which accompanied Mr. Batchelder's letter.



As the Civil War approached, gold and silver were hoarded, banks in New York and Philadelphia could not redeem their own notes, and specie payments were suspended. Treasury Notes under the Act of December 23, 1857, were issued, "... the type which had saved the U.S. Government from ruin during the War of 1812, the Panic of 1837 and other periods of distress."³ A circulating medium of exchange was needed, and equally important, a method of financing the conflict between North and South was necessary. Both were provided by the Act of July 17, 1861. What follows later often relates to this act; therefore I will quote the pertinent section which is vital to our story:



The \$1 and \$2 legal tender notes issued with the anti-alteration device. The \$1 note bearing plate A and serial number 1 was presented to S. P. Chase, Secretary of the Treasury.

Treasury notes to be of any denomination fixed by the Secretary of the Treasury, not less than fifty dollars, and to be payable three years after date, with interest at the rate of seven and three tenths per centum per annum, payable semi-annually. And the Secretary of the Treasury may also issue in exchange for coins, and as part of the above loan, or may fix for salaries or other dues from the United States, treasury notes of less denomination than fifty dollars, not bearing interest, but payable on demand by the Assistant Treasurers of the United States at Philadelphia, New York or Boston, or treasury notes bearing interest at the rate of three and sixty-five hundredths per centum payable in one year from date, and exchangeable at any time for treasury notes for fifty dollars, and upwards, issuable under the authority of this act, and bearing interest as specified above: Provided, that no exchange of such notes in any less amount than one hundred dollars shall be made at any one time: And provided further, that no treasury notes shall be issued of less denomination than ten dollars, and that the whole amount of treasury notes, not bearing interest, issued under the authority of this act, shall not exceed fifty millions of dollars. (author's italics)

The three year Treasury Notes authorized by the preceding act were issued in denominations of from \$50 to \$5,000. Notes payable on demand were issued in denominations of \$5, \$10, and \$20, all dated August 10, 1861.⁴ (These Demand Notes with green backs were soon referred to as *greenbacks*.) Demand Notes were "... uttered before the suspension of specie payments and that, as a result, they would be redeemed in coin, even though not so stated on their faces: moreover, the demands were acceptable in payments of taxes and duties. As this decision proved an embarrassing drain on Treasury stocks of gold and silver, the notes were retired as quickly as possible..."⁵

As you undoubtedly remember, the Act of February 25, 1862, provided for \$150,000,000 in Legal Tender Notes

"in denominations not less than \$5." \$60,000,000 of the preceding amount was intended for the redemption of demand notes. Some time prior to February 10, the date Mr. Fitch Shepard, president of the National Bank Note Company, wrote to Secretary of the Treasury Salmon P. Chase, we are able to confirm that it was the American Bank Note Company which was responsible for the designs of the demand notes. After saying models for backs "were sent today," Mr. Shepard continued:

We think an arrangement between the American and National Companies will be effected tomorrow, by which they will co-operate to facilitate the Govt. - Business. As the faces by the American Co. already used for the 5, 10 & 20 will be continued [from the demand notes to legal tender notes,] we trust the Secretary will deem it proper to employ the National's backs for the same - which will be ready for the press directly [after] they are adopted by the Department. The several plates to be printed by either company.

We have prepared all the important parts for the higher denominations, and will be happy to submit the same in form for examination at the Secretary's pleasure; any one which can be ready for the press on very short notice - and transfers be furnished to the other company.

Less than two weeks after this dated correspondence, the following letter was sent to Secretary Chase by the American Bank Note Company. Referring to a telegram sent earlier stating that the two companies had agreed to cooperate, the letter proceeds: "We have prepared ourselves to print with all possible dispatch after the passage of the law, having on our own responsibility prepared plates in anticipation of its passage, as nearly complete as possible before details of the Act are settled. We shall be happy to submit models for approval..."

The first issue of Legal Tender Notes (\$5, \$10, \$20, \$50, and \$100) bore the following obligation: "This note is a Legal Tender for all debts public and private except



The first obligation as it appears on the back of the \$20 legal tender note. (Courtesy of J. Roy Pennell)

duties on imports and interest on the public debt, and is exchangeable for U.S. six per cent twenty year bonds, redeemable at the pleasure of the United States after five years."

Not enough Demand Notes were redeemed, so a second \$150,000,000 in Legal Tender Notes was authorized under the Act of June 11, 1862, \$35,000,000 of which was to be "in denominations of less than \$5." The lack of specie created this critical need for bills of \$1, \$2, and the proposed \$3 note.

In what appears to be a last minute effort to change the appearance of the new \$5 Legal Tender Notes from the previously issued Demand notes (which were the same with one exception: the deletion of the words "on



With the exception of the surrounding ornamentation, the second obligation lettering on the \$5 legal tender note is identical to the lettering on the \$3 note. By referring to Friedberg, Donlon or Hessler one can also see the same lettering on the \$10, \$20, \$500 and \$1000 notes, all prepared by the American Bank Note Co.

By checking the same sources one can observe the different style of lettering on the \$1 and \$2 notes which I believe were prepared by the National Bank Note Co.

demand"), a new portrait of Alexander Hamilton was suggested by Secretary Chase. A letter from the American Bank Note Company to the Secretary on March 19, 1862, states that the substitution of "... the new portrait of Alexander Hamilton for the one now on the Five ... would cause a delay in the first delivery ... since they were already printing from the plates. Although it is unknown, one would assume the "new portrait" is the one that appeared the following year on the \$50 one-year Interest-bearing Note.

The obligation for the second emission under the act previously mentioned was changed to read: "This note is Legal Tender for all debts public and private, except duties on imports and interest on the public debt, and is receivable in payment of all loans made to the United States." These notes were no longer exchangeable for 6% bonds as were the first emission notes.

\$1 and \$2 Legal Tender Notes were issued; quotations and condensations from letters which follow show the interesting evolution of the \$1, \$2, and \$3 Legal Tender Notes plus mention of an additional note that was in the planning stage.

You will recall the Act of July 17, 1861, authorized "... treasury notes bearing interest at the rate of three and sixty-five hundredths per centum payable in one year from date ... in denominations not less than ten dollars. Section 3 of the subsequent Act of August 5, 1861, authorized "... the Secretary of the Treasury to fix the denomination of said notes at not less than five dollars."

The recommendations of Secretary Chase were reflected in the two acts just mentioned. There was another recommendation by the Secretary which was not incorporated into the Act of July 17, 1861, his suggestion for a \$25 treasury note. ⁶ The act as passed authorized Treasury Notes in denominations not less than \$50.

In the March 8, 1862, issue of *The Banker's Magazine*,

Pliny Miles was a bit premature in writing about what he called, "A New Treasury Note." This announcement stated that 100 million 7.30% one-year notes in the denominations of \$25, \$50, \$100, and \$500 were to be issued: "... these notes will combine two great conveniences, ... they will serve both as a permanent investment and a circulating medium." The writer went on to say the notes will grow and increase every day they are in one's possession. Mr. Miles continued by saying, "This note, particularly if issued in as small denominations as \$25 and \$50, will have a peculiar fascination"; a father will say to his children, "Now be economical, save your pocket-money, and I will buy you a Treasury Note." It was also the opinion of Mr. Miles that "... some of the first financial minds of the age have pronounced these notes ... the best mode of investment." *The Banker's Magazine* article closed with a bit of soft sell reminding the reader the new treasury notes will "... constantly augment one's wealth ... grow in value, even while he is sleeping."

Unfortunately for Mr. Miles, the \$25 Treasury Note was not issued, neither were the \$5, \$10, and \$20 3 65/100 notes provided for by the Act of July 17, 1861. Before we move too far off course, let us return to the letters which tell us more about the evolution of the \$1, \$2, and \$3 notes in which the 3 65/100 notes played a most important part.

The earliest reference I could locate for these 3 65/100 notes was in a letter dated August 15, 1861, from the American Bank Note Company to John J. Cisco, Assistant Treasurer of the United States, confirming the suspension of \$30,000,000 of these notes as ordered in a letter of August 7. Ten days later, the American Bank Note Company wrote to Secretary Chase, informing him work had been suspended on the 3 65/100 notes and all time would now be devoted to Demand Notes and 7 3/10 Interest Notes.

On August 16, one day after the first of three letters to which reference was just made, President Lincoln proclaimed an end to all commercial relations with inhabitants of the rebel states. It would therefore seem very unlikely that bank notes of any type emanating from Washington would now legally circulate in the South.

The alteration of the 3 65/100 notes was first mentioned in a letter of June 27, 1862, in which Mr. Cisco was asked by the Secretary of the Treasury to consult with the American Bank Note Company to ascertain whether the plates for these notes could be altered into Legal Tender Notes of the denominations of one, two, and three, and the expense for such alteration. A reply from the bank note company comments on the four subject plates already prepared: "We will convert these plates into Legal Tender Notes 1. 2. & 3 without any charge for altering them, and would furnish notes from them on [the] same terms as the 5's 10's & 20's are furnished." These notes could be ready one week after an order was placed. On July 1, Secretary Chase ordered the plates to be altered; however, he reserved the contract for finishing the notes to be considered at some time in the future.

On July 2, 1862, anticipating the Congress would authorize the issue of \$25,000,000 in denominations of less than \$5, Secretary Chase wrote letters to both the major bank note companies. The letter to Tracy Edson, president of the American Bank Note Company, requests him to submit proposals for printing \$15,000,000 in \$1, \$2, and \$3 notes, the ratio being 6, 2, and 1 respectively. The Secretary goes on to point out that the proposal may include the furnishing of paper, in conformity with the terms of an advertisement inviting such proposals.

second Confiscation Act which authorized the U.S. Government to free those slaves in areas taken by Union Forces, work at the American Bank Note Company had progressed to the point where proofs for the \$1, \$2, and \$3 Legal Tender Notes were prepared and sent to Assistant Treasurer of the United States John Cisco, along with a letter and a bill (see illustration) for the plate preparation. Mr. Cisco then forwarded all this material to Secretary of the Treasury Chase. The correspondence which describe these events follows:

American Bank Note Company

New York 17th July 1862

Sir,

I hand you herewith proof impressions. U.S. Legal Tender Note Plates, 1.1.1.1. — 2.2.2.2. and 3.3.3.3. with corresponding Back & Tint plates, as altered from the 3 65/100 Interest Notes.

The labor of making these alterations has been very great — indeed almost equal to making new plates, notwithstanding which, they would have been finished, with the exception of the dates, on the 10th inst, had it not been for the changes required in the endorsement on the Backs, which has now been engraved three times since the order was received to alter the plates and make them conform to the Legal Tender Notes previously issued.

While there is necessarily a general conformity in the style of these Notes to those from which they are altered, yet we have endeavored as far as possible to introduce new work and in every way to combine the greatest amount of security against counterfeiting and alterations.

As requested, I hand herewith a Bill for these Plates, but I beg leave to remark that the price charged would be no consideration for the plates as altered, except in connection with a contract for printing the Notes, and the price is embraced in a proposal now before the Secretary of the Treasury for that purpose.

We are prepared to multiply plates and print the Notes with great expedition.

Very Respectfully, Sir,

Your Obt. Servt.

Tracy R. Edson President

United States Treasury

New York July 17 1862

Sir:

Referring to your letter dated July 1st I herewith transmit proof of United States Notes of the denominations of One, Two and Three Dollars, under the Act of July 11th 1862, together with a Bill from the American Bank Note Company for the plates from which the same are printed, altered from 3 65/100% Interest Notes, and a letter from Mr. Edson upon the subject. Mr. Edson informs me that this bill includes no charge for the alteration.

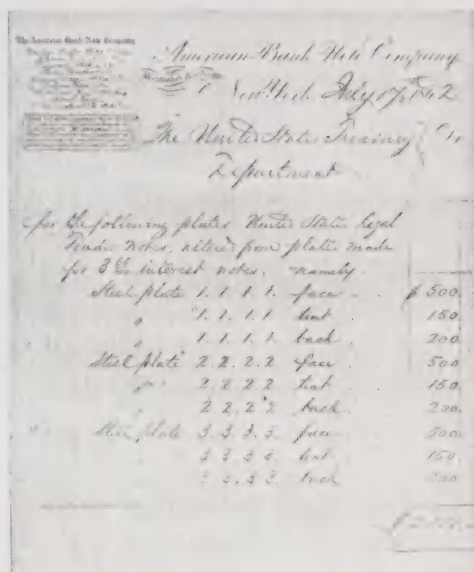
Your telegram giving the date of the Act came to hand this morning.

I have the honour to be Sir,

Your most obedient Servant

John J. Cisco Asst. Treas. U.S.

On July 25, 1862, a most revealing letter from the National Bank Note Company confirms the fact that their models for the \$1, \$2, and \$3 notes were mailed to



A bill from the American Bank Note Co. for altering the \$5, \$10, and \$20 3 65/100 interest-bearing notes to \$1, \$2, and \$3 legal tender notes.

the Secretary of the Treasury. This same letter describes the \$1 Legal Tender Note model which is the same as the issued design, establishing this company as the one which prepared the plates for the \$1 and \$2 notes. Mr. Shepard's letter to George Harrington, Assistant Secretary of the Treasury commences:

Officer National Bk. Note Co.

New York July 25, 1862

Geo. Harrington, Esq.

Asst. Secy Treas.

Washington, D.C.

Sir,

The models [for] Treas. Notes 1, 2, 3 after approved (& admired) by Mr. Sub-Treas. Cisco & friends, were mailed today to the address of Hon. S.P. Chase, Secy Treas. We prepared "working models" of the same which are already in the hands of the Transferers. It has been our aim to confirm as nearly as practicable to suggestions & memoranda made by the Secretary & yourself. You may notice that most of the lathe-work is somewhat different in style from that which was substituted by the writer at Washington. Believing we could improve it we made an entire new set, which must account for our being a day or two behind time. We think we have been successful, though the work may not appear more clear to you now, by reason of being put on the models while wet from the press. As no important changes in the backs were suggested, we omitted to send them on. We have taken the liberty to remove the portrait of the Secretary¹⁰ from the twos to the ones, as the greater number of that denomination will introduce him more generally to the people, many of whom we find are desirous to know the looks of the man to whom the country is so largely indebted for furnishing the sines of war.

We have taken pains to obtain the opinion of the personal

acquaintances of the Secy. both in Washington & this city, & find it pronounced by all, with a single exception, the best that has ever been engraved of him. So we think it can't be far out of the way.

Slight changes have been made to conform as nearly as practicable to suggestions made by Miss Chase, but we concluded it dangerous to go on any farther.

Arrangements have been entered into for the cordial & efficient co-operation of the two companies, on terms satisfactory to themselves, & it can hardly be necessary to renew assurances that every possible agency will be brought into question by both companies for dispatch in the execution.

Respy yr. obt. Svt.
F. Shepard

With all the correspondence and preparation of two \$3 Legal Tender Note models, this denomination was not issued. The only public record we can find which makes any mention of the unissued \$3 bill is found in the Connecticut Bank Note List, which was published in Hartford in September, 1862, just a few days after the second Battle of Bull Run, which took place on August 30. The announcement describes the \$1 and \$2 Legal Tender Notes (not too accurately) and goes on to say, "The \$3 notes have not been ordered."

If anything can be concluded from all that has been presented thus far, it would be that designs for the issued \$1 and \$2 Legal Tender Notes were prepared by the National Bank Note Company. This company's \$3 design probably followed the same pattern as the \$1 and \$2 with the anti-alteration device. The known \$3 design prepared by the American Bank Note Company is such a radical departure from the issued designs, one would surmise this company's \$1 and \$2 models were similar to the \$3 in design which seemed to follow the format of privately issued notes in circulation up to this time. This second \$3 design is yet to be uncovered, if it still exists.

There was one more opportunity for a United States \$3 bill to be issued. The Act of June 3, 1864, the second of 11 acts which provided for National Bank Notes, authorized \$1, \$2, \$3, and \$10,000 notes. The \$3 and \$10,000 denominations were never issued.

So, there we have it: a \$3 note which almost came to be. The search can now commence for the American Bank Note Company's design for the \$1 and \$2 notes and the National Company's design for the \$3 note.

It seems doubtful that proofs were made of the original 3 65/100 Interest-bearing Notes of \$5, \$10, and \$20 or the one-year Interest-bearing Note of \$25. However, if any of these would be uncovered, it would be a major contribution to the visual development of our currency.

(For those who may wonder about the use of *legal tender* throughout this article, it was not until February 19, 1873, that Assistant Treasurer William A. Richardson in a letter stated that hereafter the term United States Notes will be used instead of Legal Tender Notes.)

FOOTNOTES AND SOURCES:

1. This vignette was later used in a specimen frame for the Commonwealth of Massachusetts (1879-1884) and on a certificate of deposit dated November 17, 1888, drawn on the Bank of California. (Source: Ms. Alice Zeher, American Bank Note Co.)

2. Some Legal Tender Notes bear the credit of both companies, so it is difficult to ascertain which company was responsible for the design.
3. Gene Hessler, "Design For the \$100 1858 Treasury Note Uncovered," *Paper Money*, Vol. XV, No. 6, p. 260
4. The cost for furnishing Demand Notes for the U.S. Treasury was quoted at \$20,000 for 1,000,000 \$5 notes; \$12,000 for 500,000 \$10 notes; and \$6,000 for 250,000 \$20 notes. (From a letter dated July 19, 1861 from Tracy Edson, president of the American Bank Note Co., to John J. Cisco, Asst. Treasurer of the United States.)
5. Walter Breen, "The First Greenbacks", *Numismatic News Weekly*, April 11, 1972
Gene Hessler, "As Real As A Three Dollar Bill," *Coinage*, October, 1974
6. John Jay Knox, *United States Notes*, London, 1885, p. 87
Eric P. Newman, "As Phony As A Three Dollar Bill," *The Numismatist*, August, 1974
7. *The Banker's Magazine*, Vol. 16, p. 807
8. Ultimately the two bank note companies did work together to print the 1862 \$1 and \$2 Legal Tender Notes. Some notes bear the credit of both companies, as well as the date of patent for each: 30 June 1857, for the American and April 23, 1860 for the National.
9. This refers to the \$50 and \$100 Treasury Notes issued under the Act of March 2, 1861.
10. This portrait of S.P. Chase was engraved by Joseph Ourdan.

Letters in the National Archives

STATEMENT OF OWNERSHIP

(Required by 49 U.S.C. 2605)

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235. FULLY OWNED AND CONTROLLED BY PUBLICATION		YES		236. FULLY OWNED AND CONTROLLED BY PUBLICATION		YES	
237. FULLY OWNED AND CONTROLLED BY PUBLICATION		YES		238. FULLY OWNED AND CONTROLLED BY PUBLICATION		YES	
239. FULLY OWNED AND CONTROLLED BY PUBLICATION		YES		240. FULLY OWNED AND CONTROLLED BY PUBLICATION		YES	
241. FULLY OWNED AND CONTROLLED BY PUBLICATION		YES		242. FULLY OWNED AND CONTROLLED BY PUBLICATION		YES	
243. FULLY OWNED AND CONTROLLED BY PUBLICATION		YES		244. FULLY OWNED AND CONTROLLED BY PUBLICATION		YES	
245. FULLY OWNED AND CONTROLLED BY PUBLICATION		YES		246. FULLY OWNED AND CONTROLLED BY PUBLICATION		YES	
247. FULLY OWNED AND CONTROLLED BY PUBLICATION		YES		248. FULLY OWNED AND CONTROLLED BY PUBLICATION		YES	
249. FULLY OWNED AND CONTROLLED BY PUBLICATION		YES		250. FULLY OWNED AND CONTROLLED BY PUBLICATION		YES	
251. FULLY OWNED AND CONTROLLED BY PUBLICATION		YES		252. FULLY OWNED AND CONTROLLED BY PUBLICATION		YES	
253. FULLY OWNED AND CONTROLLED BY PUBLICATION		YES		254. FULLY OWNED AND CONTROLLED BY PUBLICATION		YES	
255. FULLY OWNED AND CONTROLLED BY PUBLICATION		YES		256. FULLY OWNED AND CONTROLLED BY PUBLICATION		YES	
257. FULLY OWNED AND CONTROLLED BY PUBLICATION		YES		258. FULLY OWNED AND CONTROLLED BY PUBLICATION		YES	
259. FULLY OWNED AND CONTROLLED BY PUBLICATION		YES		260. FULLY OWNED AND CONTROLLED BY PUBLICATION		YES	
261. FULLY OWNED AND CONTROLLED BY PUBLICATION		YES		262. FULLY OWNED AND CONTROLLED BY PUBLICATION		YES	
263. FULLY OWNED AND CONTROLLED BY PUBLICATION		YES		264. FULLY OWNED AND CONTROLLED BY PUBLICATION		YES	
265. FULLY OWNED AND CONTROLLED BY PUBLICATION		YES		266. FULLY OWNED AND CONTROLLED BY PUBLICATION		YES	
267. FULLY OWNED AND CONTROLLED BY PUBLICATION		YES		268. FULLY OWNED AND CONTROLLED BY PUBLICATION		YES	
269. FULLY OWNED AND CONTROLLED BY PUBLICATION		YES		270. FULLY OWNED AND CONTROLLED BY PUBLICATION		YES	
271. FULLY OWNED AND CONTROLLED BY PUBLICATION		YES		272. FULLY OWNED AND CONTROLLED BY PUBLICATION		YES	
273. FULLY OWNED AND CONTROLLED BY PUBLICATION		YES		274. FULLY OWNED AND CONTROLLED BY PUBLICATION		YES	
275. FULLY OWNED AND CONTROLLED BY PUBLICATION		YES		276. FULLY OWNED AND CONTROLLED BY PUBLICATION		YES	
277. FULLY OWNED AND CONTROLLED BY PUBLICATION		YES		278. FULLY OWNED AND CONTROLLED BY PUBLICATION		YES	
279. FULLY OWNED AND CONTROLLED BY PUBLICATION		YES		280. FULLY OWNED AND CONTROLLED BY PUBLICATION		YES	

July
1976

As Phony as a \$3 Bill

Mentioned + quoted from

in May 1976 Numismatist

p. 1012 in article

about \$3 bill collection

Given to ANA by

(Q) David Bowers

Feb 25, 1862 ^{legal tender} \$150,000,000 none less than \$5 denom

July 11, 1862 Act authorized ^{more} \$150,000,000 legal tender.
~~of such~~ ^{not more than} \$5 million were to be less than \$5.

Sec III Ch 73 Sec 3

The Mar 3, 1863 Act merely raised the total ^{by} \$150,000,000, more
denoms not less than \$1 ~~20~~

notes as provided in Jan 17, 1863 ~~Act~~ Joint Resolution
"of such denoms, not less than one dollr."

Phoney as a \$3 bill

Act of Feb 25, 1863 Chap 58 12 Stat L. 665
Sec 22 (see below)

Act of June 3, 1864 (^{Revised} Nat Bank Act) ch 106
13 Stat L 99

Sec 22

Circulating Notes of National Banks in
denominations of 1, 2, 3, 5, 10, 20, 50, 100, 500, 1000

5th Law Library 8/7/72

37th Cong.
Sess III Chap ~~55~~ LVIII US Stat at L. passed 2/25/63 First Nat Bank Act
An Act to provide for a National Currency \$300,000,000 limit
Sec 18
Denoms of 5, 10, 20, 50, 100, 500, 1000

Sess II C VI
Sec 2 Chap 106 Second Nat Bank Act passed 6/3/64
Denoms 1, 2, 3, 5, 10, 20, 50, 100, 500, 1000

37th Congress
Sess III Sec 7 Chap 73 US Stat L 3/3/63
5% tax each 1/2 yr. on those notes less than \$1⁰⁰
all banks, persons, corps + individuals after April 1, 1863

Sess III Ch 73
Sec 3 No denom specified. 3/3/63

37th Congress
Sess II Ch ~~XXIII~~ XXXIII An Act to authorize the issue of United States Notes
Approved 2/25/62 Legal tender
Sec 1 Not less than \$5⁰⁰ den
Secretary of the Treasury or his deputy authorized to issue 5 Notes \$150,000,000 not bearing interest
"of such denominations as he may deem expedient, not less than five dollars". payable to bearer

37th Congress
Sess II Chp 142 Stat L July 11/62 Legal tender
\$150,000,000 denoms as he may deem expedient
Not less than \$1⁰⁰
Not more than ~~\$35,000,000~~ \$35,000,000 less than \$5

An Act to authorize in Addition issue of United States Notes
"of such denominations as he may deem expedient; Provided, that no note shall be issued for the fractional part of a dollar, and not more than thirty-five millions shall be of lower denominations than five dollars;
"in such form as he ~~may~~ shall prescribe"

37th Sess III Ch 73 Mar 3, 1863 Legal Tender Noninterest \$150,000,000
of such denominations not less than one dollar as he may prescribe
\$50,000,000 fractional currency also authorized

~~Traveller~~
Josiah Flint

Tramping with Tramps
(Glossary) 1898
peddler & bogus jewelry

Josiah Flint
The American Tramp
- Aug 1891 Contemporary Literature

fawney

go on the fawney
fawney bunnings
fawney dropper
fawney rig

also fawney

fawney man - peddler & gawney

fawney cove (1848)

the fawney

cony-catching is swindling

Coney (cony) a silly fellow.

Stage A

1872

Burnham

Memories of the United States
Secret Service

Phonology

Phonology in English, 1936

James R. Currier
The Great Kid

July 17, 1861 37th Cong Sess I Chp V ~~\$50,000,000 not less than \$10 denom.~~
~~not bearing interest~~

~~Feb 12, 1862 37th Cong Sess II Ch. XX~~

Aug 5, 1861 37th Sess I Ch XLVI Sec 1 provides for
Assist Secy at St Home.

Sec 3 permits denoms to be coined ~~if~~ ^{any} ~~less than~~ ^{not less than} \$10 to \$5

\$50,000,000 Total of $7\frac{1}{2}\%$ ^{20 year} bonds and Treas Notes without interest
3 year Treas Notes $7\frac{3}{4}\%$ int not less than \$50⁰⁰
Treas notes not bearing interest to exch for coin, for salaries
etc \$50,000,000 limit not less than \$10 denom
payable ordered by Asst Treas of US at Phila, NY or Bkln

2/25/63
1st. Bank Act Sec 18

"to be engraved in the best manner to guard against counterfeiting
and fraudulent alterations" 5, 10, 20, 50, 100, 500 1000
(repeated in 6/3/64 act see 22 refers to cty + alter)

Second Nat Bank Act

Sec 2 "of the denominations of one dollar, two dollars, three dollars
five dollars, ten dollars, 20 50 100 500 1000 as may
be required

not more than $\frac{1}{10}$ ^{part} of notes be of less denom than \$5

Sec 3 "and that after specie payments shall be resumed no association
shall be furnished with notes of a less denomination than five dollars"

Sec 11 of Act of May 30, 1908 Ch 229

The denom of Nat Bank Notes are 5, 10, 20, 50, 100, 500
1000, 10000

Wash Univ library

George Ade (1866-1944)

Fables in Slang (Chi 1900)

PS 1006

A 6

F 3

M 6

More Fables ~~(1900-1901)~~
subtitled

More Fables in Slang
(Chicago 1900)

Next issue (Chicago) 1901

Published in England in 1902

p. 138

"Overlook all the Phoney Acting by the Little
Lady, Bud"

Russo, D. P. Bibliography of George Ade

Spec

PS 1006

A 6

M 6

1900

Funny business.

Seage P Burnham

American Counterfeits (Boston 1879)

1st edit Springfield Mass 1875

written in 1872 (p. 61)

p 47 coney - man p 56, 59, 65, 83, ^{2d revised.}

p 52 the market for coney

54 dealing in coney

55 no coney was found

56 queer (cf) 99 shiners of the queer
coney 58 59

62 koniacker, 71, 83

68 coney traffic, 99

78 coney fraternity

Dictionary of American Slang 1960

Wentworth ~~Phony~~ ~~Wentworth~~

has Phony as a \$3 bill

~~1870s~~ Maurice Wassen - Out of Order Slang

~~Heinrich~~ Chapin - Out of Order Slang (not sure)

fanny from snail (meaning)

Phony American Heritage.

S ^{Oxford} Supplement 1902

George Ade More fables in Slang p 138

Bartlett 1877.

John's Farmer's ^{London} ~~Americans~~ ¹⁸⁸⁷ ~~old + New~~ 1877

Schule de Veil's Americans - 1872

A S Vol XII

Apr 1937 p. 108-10 Ch V Sec 2

American Speech

~~V. A. Young~~

~~T. R. Ybarra~~

PE 1625

One always smiles when

"As phony as a three dollar bill"
^{a descriptive phrase}
is an analogy (?) which usually
evokes a wry smile (and physical scorn)

✓ "As phony as a three dollar bill" is a
descriptive put-down which usually evokes
a ~~very wry smile~~ wry smile

William P. Dornon

A ~~Proof~~ ~~Specimen~~ of the #3 design of
this series ^{does} exist.

United States Large Size Paper Money 1861 to 1927

(Dela, Wisc 1968) p. 16 and subsequent editions.

Walter Breen

The Notes That Almost Were
Numismatic News Weekly 6/13/72

(a #3 was planned and at least one proof of the
face plate exists)

↑ Walter made an error

Webster's New
Intl Dictionary

1909 Edition 1926 printing

funny

1. Droll; comical; amusing; laughable
2. Strange; queer, odd. Colloq.

funny business, tricky, fraudulent, or
dishonest business. Slang

Under phony in the footnotes

Phony

[Cf. funny business under FUNNY]
Not straight or genuine; "crooked";
"fake." Slang U.S.

Noah Webster

An American Dictionary of the English Language
Springfield Mass 1880

Fanny Fanny Fanny Fawney Phony Phoney.
not there

Francis A March
A Thesaurus Dictionary of the English Language
(Phila 1906

Phony Phoney not there

Markens, Mifford M.

A Dictionary of Americanisms on Historical Principles

Chic 1951

phony says it is from fawney

St Louis Public Lib

1909 Webster's New Intl Dict of English Language
(1931 reprint)

phony (in lower margin)
funny business (see funny)
not straight or genuine. "crooked"
"fake" (slang U.S.)

(regular listing) under "funny business" funny business
tricky, fraudulent or dishonest (U.S. slang)

Ref 423

1843 Webster's Intl Dict

1893

Mo Hist Soc
clerk

1909 Webster's New Intl Dict of English Language

1910 Printing

(in lower area) phoney a variation of phony (in lower area)
phony (fō nī)^a [c.f. funny business under funny]
(in lower area) not straight or genuine "crooked" "fake" slang U.S.

(in regular area) funny strange, queer, odd.
funny business, -Tricky, fraudulent or dishonest business (U.S. slang)

The New Century Dictionary NY Copy 1927 1946 Revision

phony adj [Origin uncertain] Not genuine; spurious
counterfeit or bogus; ~~the~~ fraudulent (slang)

Noah Webster An American Dictionary of the English Language

Webster Intll Dict	1890
New Intll Dict	1909
2nd New Intll Dict	1934

PE 1625
W 3
1880

Oxford English Dict 1933

Fawney

- ① A finger ring
- ② To go on the fawney
Fawney rig
- ③ Fawney bouncer
Fawney dropper

2nd Supple Amer. Language Menckin

p 686 says

Origin of Abony still uncertain in
most disclosures

2. + to American Island

Contemporary Review Aug 1891

foreign man is seller of logan finally
p. 253

~~to~~

See AL 4 p 187

nothing new

Suppl. p. 511

nothing new

mahula

Wash Univ May 1973

A Dictionary of Americanisms on Historical Principles
Edited by W. F. Osgood & M. Mathews.

Phony (1) A fake or pretender

"Lander is phony" (1941 S. V. Benedict p 485, ~~later in the people~~)

"You're nothing but a phony" (Chi Trib Sept 17, 1941 III 18/3)

(2) Counterfeit not genuine

1900 "Overlook all the Phony Acting" George Ade More Fables, 132

"I gave the sucker my name and address (both phony of course)"
1909 Sat Ev Post Mar 1909 48/2

A Dictionary of American English (Chicago 1942)
Edited by Craig & ~~Barth~~ No listing.

A new Dictionary of Americanisms by Sylvia Chapin (N.Y. 1902)
no listing

The American Language by L. H. Mearns 4th Rev 1963
p. 234 mentions Forney and farney
w/ps of farney such for any
p 707 - mentions
737 "

Dictionary of American Slang (NY 1960, 1967)
Compiled by Webster & Flexner

"three dollar bill" an odd or eccentric person; a homosexual.
from the expression "as phony as a three dollar bill"

phony phony forney
not genuine, fake, counterfeit

"Phony letters"
190- "Phony letters" - ~~same~~
change into - 28

Very common since 1900, Etymology unclear

P. Tansy in AS 1937 pp 108-10 discredits origin from telephone,
funny, forney but gives credit to forney farney

spelling Phony is more commonly used than phony

Jamie Duranti "I ain't phoneying them woids" New Yorker July 16, 1943

Erin Partridge A Dictionary of the Underworld
NY 1952

Cony -

Coniacleer - a counterfeit paper Nat Police Bury Jan 14, 1846
Bancroft 1848

fanny ring	George Parker "A View of Society" Goes back to 1781	in English	All relate to ring trick (fanny ring + splitty)
fanny cone	f	English	
fanny dropping	1851	English	
fanny bonny	1857	English	

queer "False counterfeit money" English origin
1771, "Thieving Detected" - anonymous
A counterfeit bank note The National Police Gazette Jan 9, 1847

queer man "A regular professional counterfeit (Bancroft)
Feb 21, 1846 The National Police Gazette
1872 Memoirs of the United States Secret Service
George P. Burnham

Shove the queer To pass off money
1859 George W. Maitell "Vocabulary"
1872 Burnham

Phoney Imitation jewelry 1905

1924 Edgar Wallace, Room 13 "Black & Phoney stuff"
the call it 'phoney' in America

obj Imitation, false counterfeit jewelry,
1900 George Ade More Fables in Story

Dictionary of American Underworld Slang (NY 1950)

edited by Goldin, O'Leary & Lipsius

mentions

phony line-up

police line-up

phony monicker

false name, pen name,

phony handle

false name

phony punch

false arrest

phony rap

false charge

phony steer

bad lead.

phony tag

phony up

{ to set up a false front for swindling
to turn traitor

phony tip

phony ^{not} wig

phony ^{spunk} - fake drink

phony dice

The American Thesaurus of Slang (1953, 1942)

Barney & Van Den Bark, editors

phony test

phonified = falsified

phonygness

phony front

phony jewelry

imitation

phony money

- etc

Coin World May 4, 1962 p. 10

"Chicago Collection of \$3⁰⁰ Notes One of Biggest" by Gary E. Nathan

Assembled by Dr. Sidney De Lore

On exhibit at Cook County Federal Savings Loan Assoc., 2730 Devon Ave.

Chicago in bldg called Chicago's Independence Hall patterned after
Philadelphia. Collection described as "greatest collection of \$3 bills ever
assembled in the United States".

Coin World Sept 10, 1967 p. 29

"Three Dollar Bill Hoard for Jobs" by Fay C. Smith

Since many \$3 issues including commercial college notes

Coin World Jan 17, 1968 p. 47

"Three Dollar Note Not So Phoney" by J. E. Charlton
Attributes source of impression to many \$3 bills of defunct ^{Canadian} banks.
and do mention only Canadian

Unadopted Gumbach designs

Essay Proof Vol 28 No 2 Spring 1971 p 51-55

Norris Vol 51 p 573-77

Thomas # Morris / the First US
The Events of 1863 / Nat Bu Notes

Essay Proof for

Vol 20 # 3, 4, Vol 21 # 1
(1963) (1964)

The Comprehensive Catalog of U.S. Paper Money

by Gene Hessler

(Chicago 1974)

(and ~~the~~ a #1 and #2 trial)

Picture of Reverse of #3, ^{follows} ~~at beginning of~~ title page
~~book before introduction~~ and after title page

"The United States Notes never highlighted the figure 3 though a \$3 bill was proposed. Here for the first time, is a die proof of the back, illustrated courtesy of the Pennell Collection. The face design has eluded me."

o Reference to #1 US Note 1862 & #2 US Note 1862

"As Real as a \$3⁰⁰ Bill"

Article by Gene Hessler

in October 1974 Coinage p. ~~77~~ 78

Illustrates face + back of
\$3⁰⁰ US Treas
7/15/62

Gives designer of
magnette etc.

4 Subj. Face Proof Imp.
July 11, 1862 U.S. Note
Amer. Brk & Note Co.
(1861-1867)

Mechanics Bank of Georgetown
#3 - 1852

9/17/73 Given to me by
James Conlon in
Washington DC at
Ft McNair Officers Club

SPN

The Missouri Republican
St. Louis, Mo., Oct. 25, 1859
Page 3, Col 5.

LOCAL NEWS

PHANCY PHEMALE PHRIGHT -- There was another sound or two of revelry Friday night at the Colloseum, late Mozart Hall. Georgiana Meadows, who is also called Frisky, was there for the first time in all her precious life. During the evening she granted Belle Taylor's fancy man the honor of her hand in the dance, on hearing which Belle Taylor waxed exceeding wrath. Taking Jenny Graham and Hattie Spencer with her, and arming herself with a "sticker", she proceeded to Madame Hunter's easy hotel, where "Frisky" does her eating and sleeping with full interest. But "Frisky" was awake, and grabbing Miss Taylor's knife "let into" all three, coming out victor. The matter was finally amicably adjusted over a social glass. The disturbance didn't wake up any of the policemen.

The Missouri Republican
St. Louis, Mo., Oct. 25, 1859
Page 3, Col 5.

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located in 1978 ±
by Elizabeth Tindall

Illustrating the change of an "F" into a "PH" for comic purposes,
there was a ~~local~~ article in the Missouri Republican published in
St. Louis, Missouri on October 25, 1859, describing a brawl between some
women as "Phancy Phemale Phight".

Illustrating the change of an "F" into a "PH" for comic purposes,
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women as ^a "Phancy Phemale Phight".
A

#3⁰⁰

Colonial issues

Georgia

Mass.

New Hamp

New Jersey

New York

North Car.

Pennsyl.

Rhode Island

South Carolina

Virginia

None

Vt.

Conn.

Del.

~~Cal.~~

American Numismatic Association

Chartered by Congress

1912

Heath Literary Award

Eric H. Newman

IN RECOGNITION OF YOUR
OUTSTANDING LITERARY CONTRIBUTION
PUBLISHED IN THE NUMISMATIST DURING THE YEAR

1974

W. Neil Davis
Editor

Edwidge E. Jones
Awards Chairman



Virginia Culver
President

James R. Hertz
Executive Director



ACT OF JULY 13, 1862.

SERIES NO. 43941

UNITED STATES

Will pay the Bearer

ONE DOLLAR

1

at the Treasury of the U.S. & at all Branches

WASHINGTON

Aug 3 1862



51/2

#8

13 1/2

37963

THE United States

3



LIBERTY

1342

#12

THREE



No. 17



No. 17



THE President

Directors & Co

of the

Farmers & Mechanics Bank of Cincinnati

promise to pay

out of the joint funds thereof according to the Articles of Association to
or bearer on demand Three Dollars

Cincinnati May 5th 1857

Cash: Three Dollars Per: _____

W. H. BARNES, Jr. Cash

O H I O

#3

13 1/2



THE **United States**

No. 37963

3



REV. OF MAY 20th 1858

A. JOHNSON,

Wholesale and Retail Dealer

MILLINERY.

The Latest Fashions constantly on hand.

No. 28 Commerce St., Bridgeton, N. J.



54

#13

13 1/2



H

PAID

The President and Directors of the

Bank of New York and City

pay to the order of

Three Dollars.

Wm. B. Astor

13



55

#5

132



United States
Treasury Department
March 25, 1865.



THE UNITED STATES promise to
receive this Note for THREE DOLLARS in all payments to them:
or to fund the amount at seven per cent. interest, on request: agreeably
to the act of Congress of Feb. 21, 1865.

COUNTERSIGNED

{ Register
of the
Treasury.

{ In behalf
of the
United States.

Small text at the bottom center, likely a printer's mark or reference.

55

#4

13 1/2



OF THE WORLD ARE THE BEST IN THE
United States



THREE DOLLARS

BY USING A SINGLE CAN OF
TRUE'S

NEATSFOOT HARNESS OIL BLACKING.



MANUFACTURED BY
McBRIDE & TRUE OIL CO.,

ROCHESTER, N. Y. COPYRIGHTED 1875.

13 1/2

54
14





100%

THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
 THREE DOLLARS.
 THIS Bill entitles the
 BEARER to receive
 Three SPANISH milled
 DOLLARS, or the Value
 hereof in Gold or Silver,
 according to a Resolution
 of CONGRESS, passed
 at Philadelphia Novem-
 ber 29, 1775.
 THOMAS
 MONTGOMERY
 THREE DOLLARS.
 THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

135



13 1/2

A. P. DAVIS,
Manufacturer of
LIGHT and HEAVY
HARNESS,
TO ORDER.

All Repairing done with Neatness
and Dispatch.

Ashburnham Centre, Mass.

TRUE'S NEATFOOT HARNESS OIL.
BLACKING always on hand.



6/1/02

#6

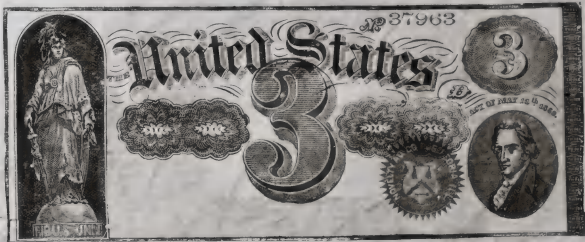
13 1/2





United States

37963





THE **United States**

No. 87968



ACT OF MAY 20th 1864

A. JOHNSON,

Wholesale and Retail Dealer

MILLINERY



The Latest Fashions constantly on hand.

No. 28 Commerce St., Bridgeton, N. J.



THE **United States**

CITY OF

PARIS, SEUL

THREE DOLLARS

WORTH OF GOLD



ST. W. 113 CLARK ST.



for one Dollar
This is the Great One Dollar Store of
County of Paris (Chicago) - E. J. Klein



Burt:

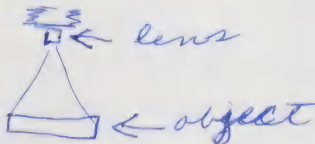
top print (#9)

was soft focus
because:

focus

or

lens not over
center of object,
and maybe close aperture
down to $f/22$



ACT OF JULY 14, 1862.

SECTION 110

THE

UNITED STATES

Will pay the Bearer

ONE DOLLAR

1

WASHINGTON

August 3, 1862.

NATIONAL BANK NOTE COMPANY

NATIONAL BANK NOTE COMPANY

ACT OF JULY 14, 1862.

THE

United States

Will pay the Bearer

ONE DOLLAR

1

at the Treasury in New York

WASHINGTON

August 31, 1862.

NATIONAL BANK NOTE COMPANY

NATIONAL BANK NOTE COMPANY



United States
Treasury Department
March 25th 1865.



THE UNITED STATES promise to
receive this Note for THREE DOLLARS in all payments to them:
or to fund the amount at seven per cent. interest, on request: agreeably
to the act of Congress of Feb. 23, 1865.

COUNTERSIGNED

{ Register
of the
Treasury.

{ In behalf
of the
United States.

REGISTERED IN THE OFFICE OF THE REGISTER



United States
Treasury Department
March 25, 1865.



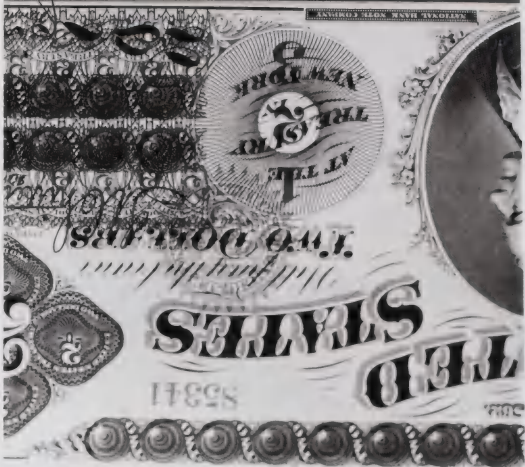
THE UNITED STATES promise to
receive this Note for THREE DOLLARS in all payments to them;
or to find the amount at seven per cent. interest, on request: agreeably
to the act of Congress of Feb. 23, 1865.

COUNTERSIGNED

{ Register
of the
Treasury.

{ In behalf
of the
United States.

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT





REGISTERED

1895

UNITED STATES

THE GREAT SEAL OF THE UNITED STATES

Will pay the bearer on demand.

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT





NEW YORK
MAY 1854

THE PRESIDENT and DIRECTORS of the
Hudson River Company promise to pay
to the Bearer hereof the sum of

Three Dollars.

NEW YORK
Robert White

145



11 - THREE - 100 (30)

The PRESIDENT and DIRECTORS of the

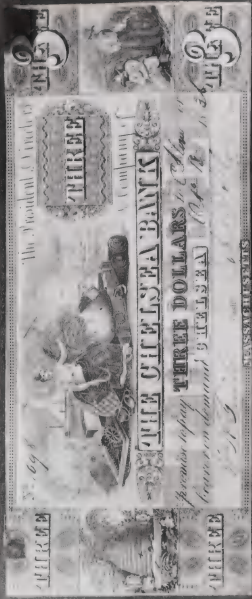
Manhattan Company promise to pay



Three Dollars.

NEW YORK

Robert White



5-698

The President & Cashier

THREE

A Company of

THE CITY OF NEW YORK

THREE DOLLARS

Payable to pay

bearer on demand

5-698

MASSACHUSETTS

THREE

THREE

THREE



THREE

No. 698

The President & Directors



THREE

Company of

THE GULFSEA BANK

promise to pay
THREE DOLLARS
for or to the order of
bearer on demand

Wm R G

Cash

MASSACHUSETTS

THREE



THREE

THREE



our President

of the

Farmers & Mechanics Bank of Cincinnati

promise to pay

out of the joint funds the sum according to the Articles of Association to

in bearer on demand Three Dollars

Cincinnati

Cash

Per

William D. Foster

O H I O



the President
of the
Directors &c

promise to pay
Farmers & Mechanics Bank of Cincinnati
out of the fund. Funds raised according to the Articles of Association to

in full or bearer on demand Three Dollars
Cincinnati Nov 7 1871

Cash?
Post

THREE



PAID TO THE ORDER OF THE

UNITED STATES

Will pay the Bearer

ONE DOLLAR

to the Bearer of this Note

WASHINGTON

August 3rd 1862



U.S. Treasury Dept.
Serial No. 1000
1000





ADT DEPT LITHOGRS.

THE

United States

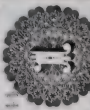
Will pay the bearer

ONE DOLLAR

At the Treasury of the United States

WASHINGTON

August 3rd 1862



U.S. DEPT. OF THE TREASURY

RECEIVED



(THE DROVERS BANK)

THREE DOLLARS

in demand

Leavenworth City

CALIFORNIA





(THE DROVERS BANK)

THREE DOLLARS

in demand

CALIFORNIA

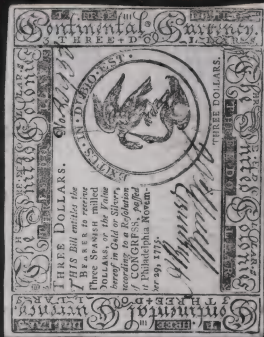
For the better

Leavenworth City



Wm. H. Brown





Continental Currency
THREE DOLLARS

The United Colonies

THREE DOLLARS.

THIS Bill entitles the
Bearer to receive
Three Spanish milled
DOLLARS, or the Value
hereof in Gold or Silver,
according to a Resolution
of CONGRESS, passed
at Philadelphia Novem-
ber 29, 1775.



THREE DOLLARS.

Continental Currency

Continental Currency
THREE DOLLARS

RECEIVABLE FOR ALL DUES TO THE STATE & FOR PUBLIC LANDS

Twelve Months after a definitive Treaty of Peace between the

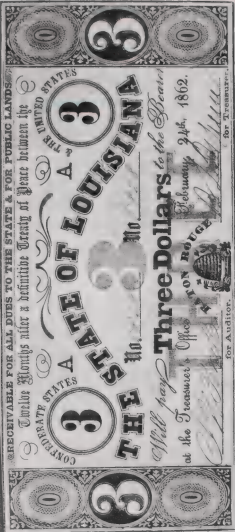
CONFEDERATE STATES
A
THE UNITED STATES

THE STATE OF LOUISIANA
No. 5228

Will pay **Three Dollars** to the Bearer
at the Treasurer's Office on or before February 24th, 1862.

Charles J. De la Harpe
for Auditor.

for Treasurer.



RECEIVABLE FOR ALL DUES TO THE STATE & FOR PUBLIC LANDS.

Twelve Months after a definitive Treaty of Peace between the

CONFEDERATE STATES

A

THE STATE OF LOUISIANA

CONFEDERATE STATES

A

THE STATE OF LOUISIANA

CONFEDERATE STATES

A

THE STATE OF LOUISIANA

CONFEDERATE STATES

A

THE STATE OF LOUISIANA

CONFEDERATE STATES

A

THE STATE OF LOUISIANA

CONFEDERATE STATES

A

THE STATE OF LOUISIANA

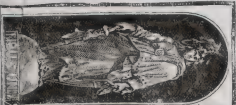
CONFEDERATE STATES

A

THE STATE OF LOUISIANA

CONFEDERATE STATES

A



United States

37963



United States

37963





No. 37968

THE United States

3

A. JOHNSON,

Wholesale and Retail Dealer

MILLINERY

The Latest Fashions constantly on hand.
No. 28 Commerce St., Bridgeton, N. J.

A. P. DAVIS,

Manufacturer of

LIGHT and HEAVY

HARNESS,

TO ORDER.

All Repairing done with Neatness
and Dispatch.

Ashburnham Centre, Mass.

TRUE'S NEATSFOOT HARNESS OIL
BLACKING always on hand.





REGISTERED MARK

THE BEST IN

United States



THREE DOLLARS

BY USING A SINGLE CAN OF

TRUE'S

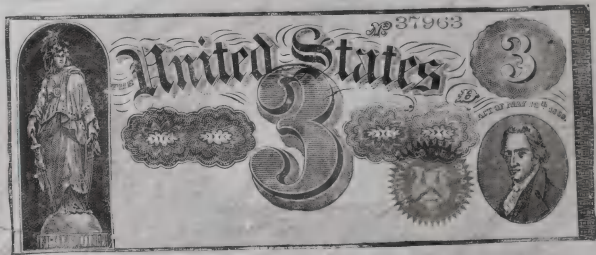
NEATSFOOT HARNESS OIL BLACKING.

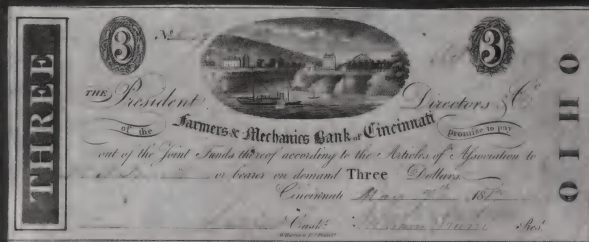
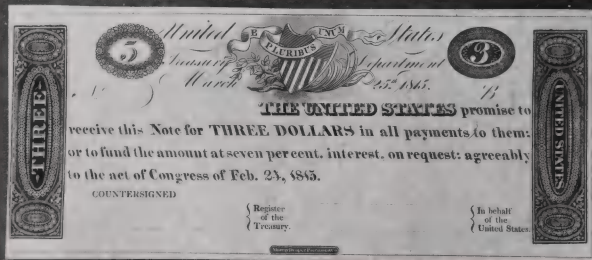
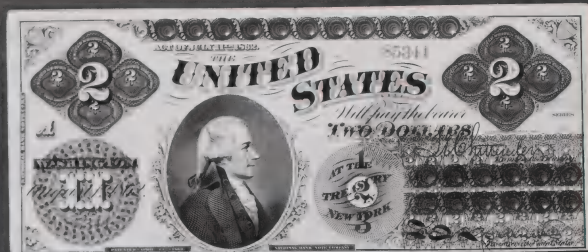
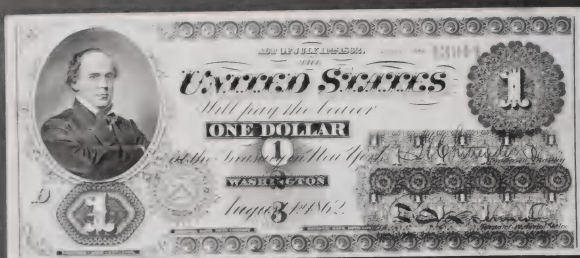


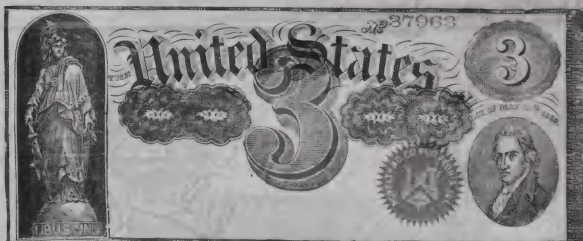
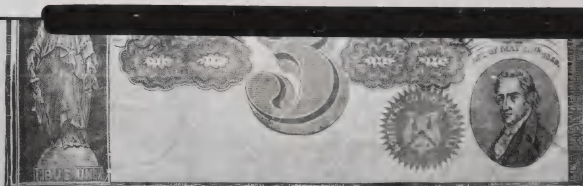
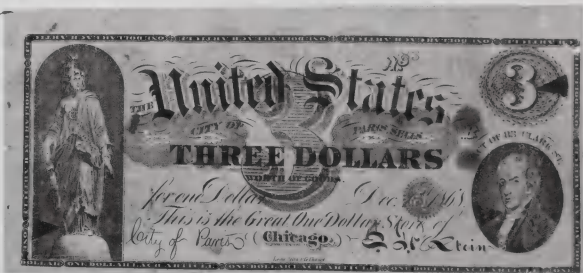
MANUFACTURED BY

McBRIDE & TRUE OIL CO.,

ROCHESTER, N. Y. COPYRIGHTED 1878.







United States



THREE DOLLARS

BY USING A SINGLE CAN OF

TRUE'S

NEATEST LAMP OIL BLACKING.

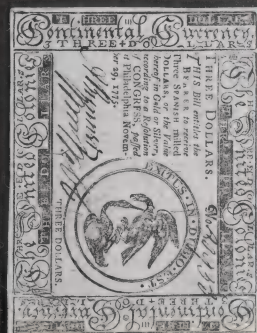


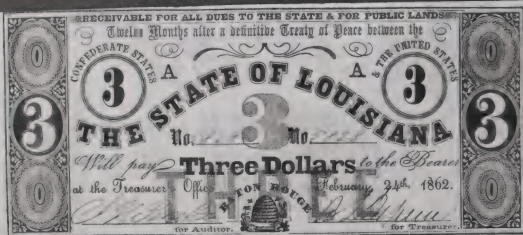
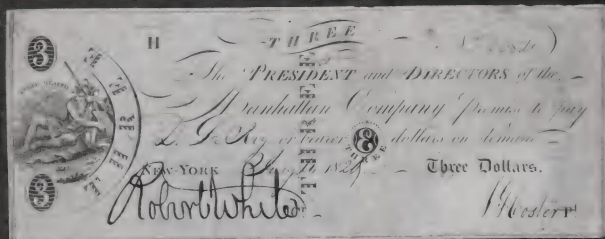
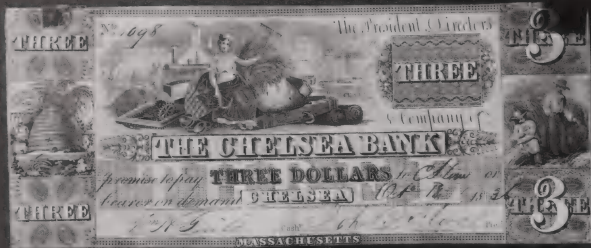
MANUFACTURED BY

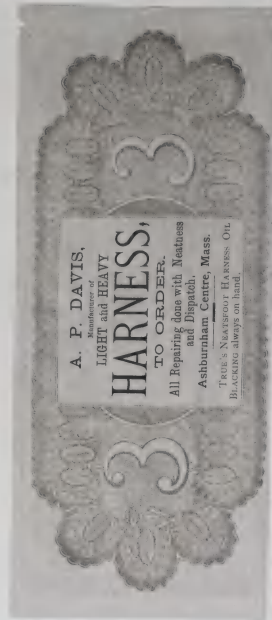
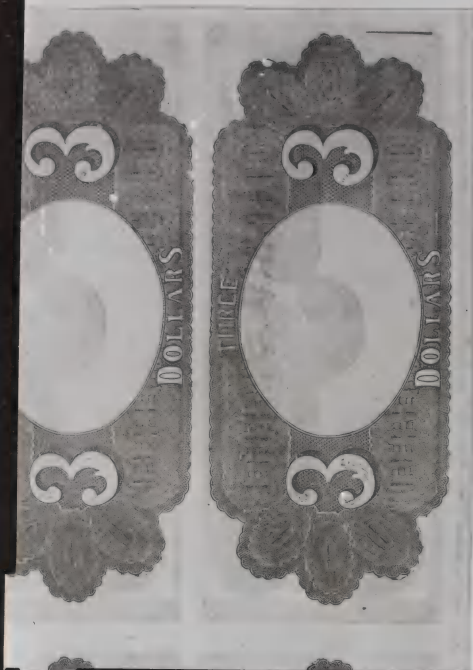
McBRIDE & TRUE OIL CO.,

ROCHESTER, N. Y.

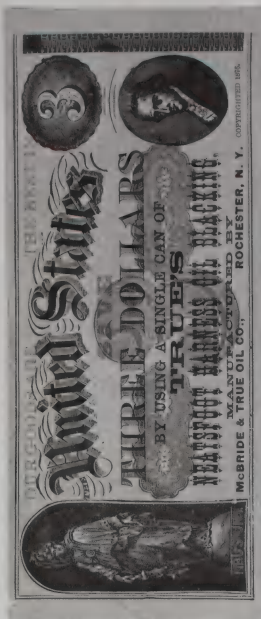
COPYRIGHTED 1885

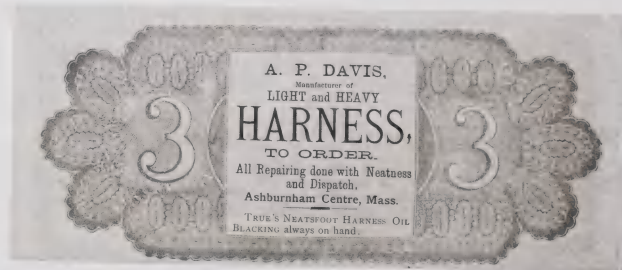


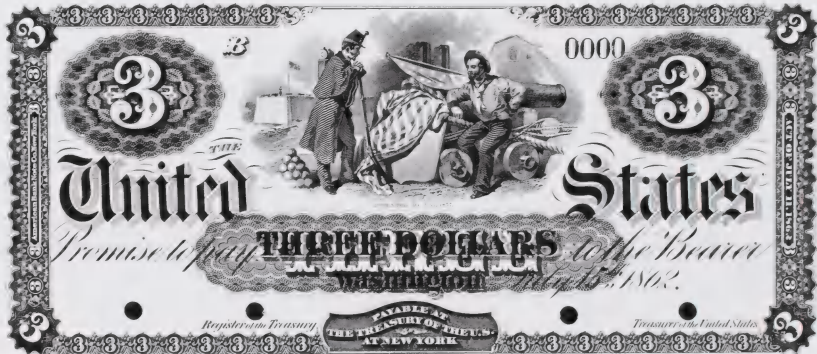




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TO ORDER.
All Repairing done with Neatness
and Dispatch.
Asburyham Centre, Mass.
TRUE'S NEATSHOOT HARNESSES. OIL
BLACKING always on hand.







3

3

United

States

THREE DOLLARS

to the Bearer

JULY 15, 1862

Register of the Treasury

PAYABLE AT
THE TREASURY OF THE U.S.
AT NEW YORK

Treasurer of the United States









